# CACHOLIC LIBBARY CORLD

Caryll Houselander, Weaver of the Spiritual

**Professional Education** 

History and Hopes

C.L.A. Units

The Thomas More Foundation

OL. 16, NO. 8

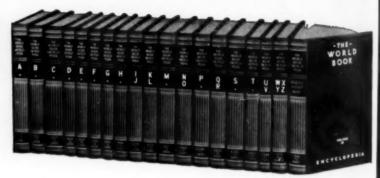
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## CONTENTS

The Catholic Library World Vol. 16 May - 1945 No. 8 Part Two! Contemporary Catholic Authors: Caryll Houselander, Weaver of the Spiritual 267 Sister M. Angeline, S.S.N.D. Professional Education 272 Brother David, C.S.C. Duquesne University Library Science Department . 275 Reverend Fintan R. Shoniker, O.S.B. History and Hopes: Report of the President 276 Reverend Andrew L. Bouwhuis, S.J. Report on C.L.A. Units and Conferences . . . . 281 Richard J. Hurley The Thomas More Foundation 286 Joseph N. Corcoran Catholic Book Week, 1945 . 288 Brother J. Sylvester, F.S.C. 290 News and Notes . 296 Book Reviews New Books 300

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## Contemporary Catholic Authors: Caryll Houselander, Weaver of the Spiritual

By SISTER M. ANGELINE, S.S.N.D., College of Notre Dame, Baltimore, Maryland

Over the seas by air mail there came to the present writer not long ago, a charming letter from Caryll Houselander, Chelsea, London. There were pages in a neat little hand that was decidedly English. The courtesy, too, about it was English. My halting request for data was called an "extraordinarily kind letter," and there was such a sincerity about the phrasing that I immediately took Caryll Houselander to my hearth and home not as a stranger but as a friend.

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Best sellers in fiction form a class by themselves, sometimes a very short-lived class. It is a platitude to say that in many cases high pressure salesmanship puts them where they are. Best sellers in biography, history, travel, have more of a staying quality about them. They will be read years after the thrilling fiction is forgotten.

But what is to be said about a spiritual book whose sales are meteoric? And what type of man or woman is the author? The answer to these questions brings us to 1941, when This War Is the Passion, by Caryll Houselander, came to our shores. Catholic and Protestant reviewers were outspoken in its praise. The consensus of opinion was that whereas other books occasioned by the conflict would certainly die when peace was restored, this one would remain, since the author used valid principles applicable to any age and any kind of circumstance.

First published in *The Grail* magazine, these essays were meant to be read by all classes of people, not necessarily by religious in convents. The bursting bombs overhead were an accompaniment to the writing of many of them. The "tight little island" had its defenders by the pen as well as by anti-aircraft guns.

In America, Nov. 22, 1941, Father Thomas Sweeney said very beautifully of Miss Houselander: She "writes like some old saint out of hundreds of years ago. Her wisdom is immense. Her style is the style of the young. She tries to say everything all at once. She is like a poet essaying a burning image in every phase. . . . A suspicious American searches for British pleading. . . . He cannot find one comma of it." There is no hatred here. no fear. The president of a leading woman's college remarked on his first reading This Was Is the Passion: "I wish this book could be in every military camp." Encomiums were countless The Sign called it a "credo of redemptive love," Commonweal stressed the fact that the free and easy manner in which it was written revealed that "the author was inspired by the true liberty of the children of God." Here were spiritual riches indeed. When one realizes that the author is a young English woman (not a cloistered religious) who at the time of writing was doing more than her bit in salvaging broken hearts and homes

in war-torn England, one marvels at the fineness of soul, the integrity of purpose, that goes to make a book like this. The more one reads it, the more one realizes that Miss Houselander believes: "There is no way of learning the Passion of Christ except through the adventure of our own heart." She is not writing about war de ipso, but only insofar as our bearing of its disasters will lead us to know Christ better, to love Him more. Her very first sentence reads: "For us, the war is the Passion of Christ." She considers such a subject as "Christ an Unreality", putting her finger upon a festering spot in many lives today, and gently, calmly, by simple little comparisons shows that

"Christ never goes away, never forgets. All day long, wherever you are, whoever you are, whatever you are doing, His whole heart is concentrated upon you. He watches you with the eye of a mother watching an only child. He sees not the surface things, not the imperfections inevitable to human frailty, but the truly lovable in you, your dependence on Him, your need of Him. Does a mother love her child less when its hair is tousled, does she love her child less because it has fallen and bruised itself? No, indeed; only, if that is posible, more! What then must we do? Listen. Be silent. Let Christ speak to you. Forget yourself, forget your soul, let Him tell you how He loves you, show you what He is like, prove to you that He is real. Silence in your soul means a gentle attention to Christ, it means turning away from self to Him, it means looking at Him, listening to Him. God speaks silently, He speaks in your heart; if your heart is noisy, chattering, you will not hear. Every ordinary thing in your life is a word of His love: your home, your work, the clothes you wear, the air you breathe, the food you eat, the friends you delight in, the flowers under your feet are the courtesy of His heart flung down to you!"

Miss Houselander stresses the fact that our own lives are so like Our Lord's: Childhood with its "warmth and laughter and gentleness. Some years of work in obscurity. Then the fasting and the public life, the life without rest, always the crowd, always the critics, always someone to find fault. And the healing, the blind to be given light, the lepers to be made clean, the poor to be comforted—and all of it ending in what? The cross; the work a failure; all the gentleness, all the poetry and beauty of it ending in this—violence, brutality, death."

Much of This War Is the Passion is concerned with our attitude towards suffering. Prayer is our first defence, and what a healing thing it is! "The harder days will be the days most woven through with the light of God." Miss Houselander has strong thoughts on living for the day: "We seldom consciously rejoice because today is a soft blue day of mist and sunlight and we are still with those dear to us, clothed, fed, and under our own roof. No, we grieve because of what tomorrow may bring. To live in the day is the beginning of being care-free." In her mind trust means no cowardly shrinking from truth. To her the liturgical year is a year of Christ-rhythm "from His silence in the heart of Mary in Advent to the 'lumen Christi' of Easter morning." She rejoices with "the sheer lovely extravagance" of the Magdalene's love; with the conviction that "Christ is in everyone with whom we come in contact. In our employer, our secretary, our office boy, in our grocer and plumber, in the policeman who takes the number of our car, in our cook and in our bishop, in our husband, wife and child, in our friend, in our lover, in our pet aversion."

But excerpts many and copious will still fail to convey the worth of this, "the best companion to the Gospel text that the war years have given." One must read it and meditate upon it in order to understand its sublime message.

There was a period of upwards of two years after its writing when lovers of Miss Houselander's first book craved a second. It came as The Reed of God, the reed that utters exquisite music in the person of the Mother of Christ. If This War Is the Passion was extraordinary, there was a greater spiritual awareness here. Of it the Catholic World wrote in June, 1944:

"The Reed of God is a book for the modern world, so sorely in need of eternal truth, vital because divinely real. Here we find a Christian philosophy of life, love, liberty and labor; a way of contemplation and compassion; the secret of holiness and happiness even in a vale of tears. . . . Volumes of philosophical and theological wisdom are included in this typical sentence: "To children it seems perfectly natural that God's thoughts should become snow and water and stars; and creation itself is simply His mediation on Christ.' . . . The effect of the book is sacramental. It effects what it signifies. You will not only read this book, you will pray it."

Sound spirituality is on every page. It is our own workaday existence that she takes to divinize. The mediocre Catholic will find it challenging. Read the chapter called "Idols" and answer, if you can, her soul-searching questions:

"How is it that the lives of so many people who profess to be Christian are utterly inconsistent with Christianity? How is it that people who do not believe in any creed, who have no moral standards and who do not recognize Charity as a thing necessary for salvation, are often conspiciously kind, warmhearted and tolerant, whereas professing Christians are notoriously hard, censorious, and exacting? . . . Above all, how is it that those in whom the Holy Spirit—the Spirit of fire and light, truth, beauty, wisdom, and love—abides, can so often be narrow, bigoted, timid, mediocre, dull and tepid, impotent in spirit, prudish, detached, suspicious, and care-

ful at the very marriage of heaven and earth? In Christ's own words, 'How is it that thou comest in hither without a wedding garment?'"

Later on in the chapter, note her answer to these questions: We become what our conception of Christ is. "We make ego-projections of Christ which are limited to our own narrowness and which justify whatever kind of life we choose to live." Above all else, The Reed of God is provocative. We are urged to put aside our inertia in things spiritual, to live a better life, to strive for the highest.

"It is Our Lady—and no other saint—whom we can really imitate. . . . The one thing that she did, and does, is the one thing that we all have to do, namely, to bear Christ into the world. . . . Our crowning joy is that she did this as a lay person and through the ordinary life that we all live; through natural love made supernatural, as the water of Cana was at her request turned into wine."

Here is wisdom, freshness of understanding, newness of expression. Though she takes prose as her medium, the author writes with lyricism and distinction.

But what were the influences in Caryll Houselander's life that led to her finesse of expression, her deep-rooted mysticism? According to her own statement she does not remember a time when she did not want to write though no one in her immediate family circle is an author. The first influence towards her writing in her very young years was an old family friend who dominated her imagination and her childhood and whom she idolized. He was a leading barrister in his day, George Spencer Bower by name. But let us listen to Miss Houselander's own words on the subject:

"As a small child I used to stay with him for weeks on end at his house in London, and during the law vacations he always came to stay with my family in our house in Brighton. He was a magnificent classical scholar, and he

made us children (I have one sister) familiar with the ideas of Plato long before we ever heard the word philosophy. He used to read Shakespeare to me and then I had to act it to him! His ways were unconventional. He took us to the theatres, and when he was pleading in a big case he took me, if I was in town, to the courts with him. I sat at the back making dreadful drawings of the ludge. and in court I wrote the first poem that I ever wrote with my own hand-a eulogy to him. Incidentally, or perhaps I should say above all, I owe the fact that I am a Catholic to him. He was an agnostic and though he so admired the Catholic Church that he longed to be a Catholic, he never did in fact receive the gift of faith. But he influenced my mother to have us brought up as Catholics. We were received into the Church as small children, and for some time remained the only Catholics in the family. Though later my mother became one, no other members of the family ever did. I think the fact that I owe my own faith to an agnostic and learned to love it very largely from him in early childhood, has given me a respect, even reverence for the spiritual experience of people outside of the Church, and I am always ready to be grateful for the grace of their good example."

After that lovely early childhood Miss Houselander was sent for some years to a French Convent in England, namely, the Convent of Our Lady of Compassion, Olton, Warwickshire. Of this she says: "There was a lot about it that was positively lyrical." She looks back on the experience as "something exquisite." Her last two years at school were spent in an English Convent (which by the way originated in America), the Convent of the Hold Child, St. Leonard's, Sussex. Later on, she studied Art and has used it since as a livelihood. As far back as 1936, she collaborated with Reverend Goeffrey Bliss, S.J., in bringing out A Retreat with St. Ignatius in Pictures for Children. Father Bliss wrote the meditations, Miss Houselander provided the pictures. The Exercises of St. Ignatius

adapted for the little ones was a unique idea; as developed, it became a fascinating game with sound spiritual values. Please Show Me the Way, illustrated by Miss Houselander, is a pamphlet for refugee children in England. There are editions also in French (Montrez moi le chemain) and in Flemish (Wyste my den weg). It emphasizes in picture and story God's love for His children.

Art and deep religious contemplation move side by side in her work. In an article entitled The Stations of the Cross, published in Liturgical Arts magazine of May, 1942, and incorporated in This War Is the Passion, one sees the strong imagination of the child, the profound spiritual insight of the woman. "When we were children, we had in our nursery a picture of a fairy castle with a little road winding around it, vanishing in mists behind some hills. We used to spend hours and hours imagining where this road led to - in our imagination we walked into the picture and discovered the secret valley behind the hills. One found a town, another a village, another an enchanted wood." Miss Houselander suggests that we can approach the Stations of the Cross in the same way, but with the difference that whereas the dream road in the picture led to a dream valley, the hard stony road of Calvary leads to the one reality, Christ. Anyone who would read her reflections on the Stations would surely learn how to meditate more deeply on the sufferings of Our Savior. In the same article she has some excellent statements on Art, and especially suggestions on designing the Stations of the Cross. "The Church for reasons of reverence founded on sad experience, forbids a too realistic representation of Christ in His Passion."

Houselander feels that instead of this limiting the artist's conception, it rather deepens his scope. "It compels him to choose aspects of the Passion which are not circumscribed by time but continue in the world; to see the Passion as something taking place now. . . . He will realize the Passion in the mind of Christ and how that continues in us, from the Pope shepherding a broken world to a child weeping over a broken doll. . . . His problem is how to say as little as he can without saying nothing at all." As Miss Houselander has specialized in making designs for Stations of the Cross, she knows whereof she speaks. In the fall of 1941 she painted a set of Stations for the chapel of the Ladies of the Grail who are now established in this country. The boat carrying them to America was sunk, but with characteristic aplomb she rushed through a duplicate set, not at all disconcerted by the fate of the first. She is positive in her assertion that she does not like painting, but she does love to carve, and draw with pencil and chalk. As a free lance artist, she has met all manner of people. At present she is doing war work in a government department. Before the Civil Defense ended she was in that, ARP First Aid to Air Raid casualties, and Fire Fighter. There is a bit of humor in her attitude of mind towards the last for she confesses naively: "I am happy to say that I have never had to fight fires. It is true that they have in past times been burning pretty near, but it happened that on those occasions I was doing First Aid duty in a Post. When I have been on Fire Duty, we always got high explosives or flying bombs, so though I have had to train and put out fires lit for the purpose, and have spent many a long night 'on guard' beside a

stirrup pump, I have, thank God, never had to cope with a real fire in a Raid!"

It is interesting to note how her first book came into existence. She used to write many articles for the Grail Magazine. Though it has been reported in this country that she belonged to the Grail, she never has, but she was a friend of the president of the organization, and in order to help her she contributed articles, usually unsigned. Mrs. Frank Sheed happened to read one of these, and being interested in the style and content, showed it to her husband. It was the Sheeds then that 'discovered' Miss Houselander and suggested the publishing of This War Is the Passion. After the war she looks forward to making writing a full-time profession. But she has another plan in mind, too. A Belgian firm of church furnishers for whom she worked in peace-time, has been an influence in her life. When peace comes again, she intends to carve crucifixes for them.

Miss Houselander maintains that her object in life is simple. First of all, she seems compelled to express herself by nature. "When I am not writing, I don't think at all. So far as I can formulate my purpose, it is to try to help ordinary lay people to contemplate God through one another, and to make the beauty and wonder of the Catholic Church known in England." She has a "tremendous love for the city of London"—her first position was in Ludgate Hill in the heart of the city, "and I used to think that if only Fleet Street alone was converted, the whole world would burst into song."

But nothing is further from her mind than to wish that people should be converted by argument or coercion of any (Continued on page 294)

### Professional Education

By Brother David, C.S.C., Librarian University of Portland

Professional education for the Catholic librarian can best be discussed by first considering the meaning of education itself and then, the meaning and necessity of specialized education for the librarian. The ordinary understanding of the word "education" is that it imparts knowledge, enriches that which is poor, enlightens that which is dark, and fills that which is empty.

It is probable that few will quarrel with this general definition of the word, "education". But if to the question, "What is education?" we add the preposition, "for", it would be difficult to find a more controversial question. Many and varied are the theories put forth as to the purpose of education, with extremists advancing seemingly diametrically opposed philosophies. All of these theories, however, can be reduced, in their final analysis, and allowing for various modifications in between, to two major the-Proponents of the first say that the purpose of education is to create a terrestrial paradise for mankind, a long life devoid of the evils of poverty, sickness, insecurity, war. Education, they say, will enrich man's material, cultural and intellectual life, so that he can enjoy to the utmost all of the bounty that Nature has provided. In other words, say these theorists, the end of education is the material welfare of mankind. Embodied in this theory also, is the idea that

since the end of education is the temporal welfare of man, and since his welfare concerns only the material side, namely the body, then only those things should be taught him which tend to bring about this desired end. All else is a waste of time, or at best, of secondary importance.

The second theory of education, the Christian and Catholic theory, on the other hand, while admitting the desirability of education as a means to alleviate the sufferings of mankind and to enrich his material, cultural, and intellectual life, insists that the final goal of education is considerably more than this: that it is but a means to an eternal end. Embodied in this Christian theory also, is the idea that since man is composed of both body and soul, the purpose of education is to develop the whole man. Consequently, everything that will tend to help in this development, both of body and soul, is useful and necessary. Thus, the differences between the proponents of the two theories, is that while the first insists that the purpose of education is the temporal happiness of man, the advocates of the Christian theory maintain that its purpose is man's eternal well-being.

With this hasty glance, then, at the fundamental philosophies of education as a background, we are ready for a consideration of the need for professional education for the Catholic librarian. Pro-

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fessional education is nothing new, of course. As far back as there are historical records, there have been skills, the most obvious being the skill that created those very historical records. But as an example, we can consider the period of the Middle Ages. If a boy wished to become a locksmith, he apprenticed himself to a master locksmith, and, after spending a certain number of years in learning his trade, he in turn became a journeyman, and later, perhaps, a master locksmith. So with other trades, skills and professions. The practice has endured to this day, particularly in certain professions. For example, many of the older practicing lawyers of today "read law" as young men in the office of some prominent lawyer, and after spending some time in this manner, they themselves emerged, after passing their bar examinations, as full-fledged lawyers.

But "time marches on", and this practice has been generally outmoded, even though the principle remains the same. Today the young man or woman who wishes to enter upon the career of librarian, doctor, lawyer, dentist, teacher, or any other recognized profession, enrolls in a specialized school, where he enjoys the advantage of training under specialists. This has become necessary because of the vast accumulation of knowledge in every field, which makes it virtually impossible for a single "master" to know everything about any given profession. These professional schools have been set up ordinarily, in connection with a college or university where the laboratory facilities, atmosphere, and prestige of the institution all contribute to the student's professional equipment. The medical student not only studies anatomy, biology, psychology and the other "ologys" pertinent to this field, under specialists, but he is able to partake of the other practical advantages and intangibles which help him attain a complete training.

And what of professional training for the Catholic librarian? It is obvious from what has been said, that if every other profession, skill, or trade must be learned under a "master" or in a professional school, then the librarian must also receive that specialized training. Consider whether it is obvious. Imagine, for example, the unlikely prospect of a man who engages workmen to erect a house who have only a "picked up" knowledge of house-building. Granting that through some minor miracle the final result actually looks like a house, after a few months of actual living in it, defects of every kind begin to be evident. The roof leaks, pipes that should be on the right side are on the left, mortar between the bricks begins to crumble and the floors look as if they were designed as a roller-coaster. A hundred other defects become mani-The disgusted owner realizes too late that he is paying in time, money, and efficiency for something which might have given him a great deal of satisfaction. The library built by the untrained librarian will show the same defects and will be just as costly in time, money, and efficiency.

Time was, when the library was a mere depository, a half-forgotten adjunct to the educational institution, and the librarian a mere custodian. Today the library is an integral part of the institution and is more in the nature of an exchange, with the librarian an educator and interpreter of the books on its shelves. Is this true of the libraries in our educational institutions? Let us glance at those institutions. In the average elementary school, high

school, or college, there are teachers for a variety of subjects. One teaches science, another history, another religion, and still another, civics. As the student goes through the educational mill he will be taught scores of subjects under as many teachers. And while each teacher, if he is a good one, will emphasize the importance of his subject, there should be some coordinating factor in the institution which will show the student the relative importance of all knowledge; that will help to develop him in his entirety, both in body and soul.

lust as the use of the library is an extension of the educational process, so the philosophy of librarianship is an extension of the philosophy of education. And just as the "secular" or materialistic philosophy will exclude everything in the curriculum that does not lead toward material well-being, so the secularized library will exclude the spiritual. The Christian philosophy of education, embracing as it does, all knowledge which will develop both body and soul, must also be exemplified in the library. Only a professionally trained person with the academic equipment of a first-class teacher can organize and manage such a library successfully. Only such a person will be able to choose wisely those books which are suited to the library and will be able to eliminate those which will retard the full development of the whole man. Only such a person will be able to harmonize the library completely with the Christian philosophy of education.

To the Catholic librarian, professional training is probably more necessary than it is to the librarian of a secular institution. This is particularly true from the point of view of the choice and elimination of books and of simple economy. The

"secular" librarian will make only a "temporal" mistake if the wrong books are added to his library; the Christian librarian, on the other hand, will make an "eternal" error. In this matter of discrimination a further word may be in order. The fearsome word "censorship" which makes many otherwise intelligent people, including not a few librarians, see red, and which, it is granted, is at times a synonym for abuse, is recognized in every society as a legitimate expedient wherever danger threatens. We need only consider the impositions of war, our postal and customs laws or our self-imposed newspaper conventions, to name but a few of the restrictions applied when danger threatens. The Christian philosophy of education insists upon the worthwhileness of all knowledge that leads to truth and the development of the whole man. It discards, however, all which leads to error and the injury to any part of man, be it soul or body.

Most Catholic libraries, because of the burden imposed by independence, have less money to spend and will probably always have less money than the secular library, at least in the foreseeable future. This need not be too great a handicap if the librarian is thoroughly skilled in his task and is able to buy both judiciously and well. Yet, how often the opposite is the case. The inexperienced and untrained librarian will not see the scope of the institution's policies or of its curriculum, and will be unable to harmonize the library with that curriculum or those policies. Sub-standard books and equipment will be purchased or recommended for purchase, which will be useless in prosecuting the general purpose of the institution. Because of the lack of technical knowledge, work that should have

been done once may be repeated several times, and faculty members and students will not find in the library either inspiration or the information and books that they seek. Yet the money that should have gone into the purchase of good books has been used to purchase books that the library will never use. So it can be repeated. Professional training is necessary to the Catholic librarian, if the Catholic library is to be economically and efficiently administered and if the Catholic philosophy of education is to have full opportunity to be exemplified.

## Duquesne University Library Science Department

By REVEREND FINTAN R. SHONIKER, O.S.B., St. Vincent College, Latrobe, Pennsylvania

Duquesne University of Pittsburgh now offers a five year course in Library Science, given during the summer period. This series of courses came into being through the interest manifested in the development of the Diocesan Libraries, particularly those in the high schools, by the Reverend Thomas Quigley who has been an interested member of the Pittsburgh Unit of the Catholic Library Association since its beginning. The Unit has cooperated as fully as possible with him in all projects which he has suggested. On one occasion they prepared a reading list for the children of the elementary grades. This list contained the titles of books which can be found in every public library of the city of Pittsburgh.

Early in 1944 Father Quigley met with the director of the Library Department of the Office of the Superintendent of Schools, Sister M. Hieronyme, and with her advisory staff. After much discussion it was felt that the schools of the Pittsburgh diocese should be staffed with qualified librarians. It was suggested that the Sisters be sent to schools approved by the American Library Association Board for Librarianship, and if, because of the expenses involved, this could not be done, then the Sisters should be sent to nearby schools offering library work. In a further conference with Father Quigley it was decided that it would be asking too much of the Mother Superiors to demand these qualifications from their librarians without presenting something as a solution.

Duquesne University then offered to conduct a full year's work in library science over a period of five summers of six weeks each. This offer was made through the generosity and cooperation of the Reverend Raymond Kirk, president of the University, and Miss Gertrude Blanchard, a pioneer in the field of Catholic librarianship and librarian at Duquesne. This plan seemed more reasonable, and, as a consequence, the Superintendent of Schools suggested to the Mother Superiors that they send their Sisters to Duequesne University for the library science work.

(Continued on page 293)

## History and Hopes: A Review of the Recent Past and a Plan for the Future

By REVEREND ANDREW L. BOUWHUIS, S.J., Retiring President of the Catholic Library Association

One of the fundamental purposes of the Catholic Library Association is to help make available books, magazines, and other records of thought so that the Catholic way of life may be understood and appreciated by all. It is almost impossible to know the Catholic way of life thoroughly without considerable reading and study. This requires in turn that skilled librarians collect the material. keep it in order, guide prospective readers and students to the proper sources and thus save them their time and energy. Catholic librarianship is called upon to play a big part in the modern apostolate of the intellect.

It might be profitable to review the recent history of the Catholic Library Association in the light of this fundamental objective and to suggest plans for the future.

The membership shows a small but steady growth from year to year, now reaching twelve hundred. The members are scattered all over the United States, parts of Canada and South America. The vast majority are religious engaged in school work. However, during the past three years a good number of public librarians, managers of rental libraries and parish libraries, owners of book stores and directors of clubs and organizations who have reading circles have found it worth their while to become members. The hospital section of the Catholic Library Association has been

growing slowly. These types of membership will continue to increase as the work of the organization becomes better known and as the services rendered meet specific needs. The services to hospitals, clubs, such as the Knights of Columbus, Catholic Daughters of America, and others, to the public libraries, to the rental libraries and book stores can be increased without sacrificing in any way the services to schools.

In many sections of the country more emphasis has been placed on training pupils to make proper use of the public libraries. This emphasis should be continued and extended. The vast majority of students who will use books at all in their post-school days will use the public libraries. The librarians, in turn, will be more than willing, even anxious, to welcome them as patrons and take care of their needs if they know how to use the libraries sincerely, intelligently, and consistently.

The detailed report of the Catholic Periodical Index Committee will show that, for the first time, the C.P.I has supported itself. It was found necessary to separate from the H. W. Wilson Company, because the committee and the Company could not agree on editorial policy or on financial arrangements. The steady increase in the number of new subscribers during the past year, the satisfaction with the service and the coverage of new magazines that are important in

the field of Catholic letters, indicate the success the Committee has achieved and promise well for the future. There is a field for at least another five hundred subscribers. With a little more help from the present subscribers these potential subscribers would become actual subscribers.

The elementary school library committee was set up three years ago, at the Milwaukee meeting. Its objectives are to have a well run, central elementary school library in every parochial school, to have a trained librarian, if not for every school, at least for every twenty teachers, to have a library supervisor for each community, and to make sure that all elementary school teachers have at least two courses in children's literature. It is not possible to give accurately the number of elementary school libraries started in the past three years, but it is known to be more than two hundred. Few of these libraries have trained librarians. Their book collections are uniformly good; the children love them, and patronize them ardently. The promotion of these libraries is probably the most important new activity of the Catholic Library Association. It is spreading rapidly throughout the country. At least two or three letters a week come into the president's office, asking for book lists, for advice on various projects or for solutions of problems. Last year, to meet some of the needs in the Buffalo area, the Canisius College Library ran a two weeks' institute for those who have charge of such libraries. An institute with practically the same program will be run again this summer. Similar institutes in different parts of the country would help the teachers make better use of their facilities and would tide them

over until such time as trained librarians are available.

In June, 1944, the Catholic University of America assembled some twenty librarians, and others conversant with this work, to present a series of papers on elementary school libraries. The proceedings are a treasury of clearly stated principles and practical advice. Nearly every local unit has included in its program some sessions devoted to this phase of library work. This activity is very important and should be promoted as much as possible.

In 1942, the late Miss Clara Woodward, President of the Special Libraries' Association, organized the Council of National Library Associations. Her purpose was to promote among the associations a better understanding of one another and more cooperation, and to prevent needless duplication of effort. The first project was the publication of a brochure describing all the member organizations. The second was to explore the possibilities of rehabilitating the devastated libraries in war areas. This has finally brought about the formation of a special committee on the restoration of libraries in war areas. The present writer was one of thirty-five, invited by the State Department to attend a meeting held last February in Washington to discuss what should be done and the most effective way of proceeding. When we realize that in China, in the Philippines, and in Europe nearly all libraries that were not immediately useful to the invaders were destroyed, we know how desperately our colleagues abroad need our help. The seminaries and colleges have been principal sufferers. As the plans develop, you will be asked to give your aid. It would be wise now to start collecting any duplicates of scholarly books and periodicals,

religious, scientific or literary. All will be needed.

National Catholic Book Week attracts more attention and promotes more activity each year. From the correspondence on the subject and from the requests that come into the central office and to the chairman, it is evident that at least three thousand book week programs are put on. The value of this in stimulating interest in Catholic books is tremendous. The poster and slogan contests bring the celebration to the attention of the students in the Spring, and serve to renew interest in pupils and teachers. Though we should extend our influence far beyond the schools, it is still true that our greatest single influence is in the schools. These should never be neglected. A wholehearted, nationwide campaign for National Catholic Book Week will bring Catholic letters and Catholic studies to the attention of all. The good effects are almost limitless.

The committee who prepare the Catholic Supplement to the Standard Catalog for High School Libraries are giving an excellent service to the high school librarian. They choose suitable Catholic books, list and annotate them, and have them included in the Standard Catalog. Such books are of recognized worth, and are so accepted by standardizing agencies.

The general activities of the Catholic Library Association, its executive work and the clearing of reports have always hinged on the annual conference. The restrictions on travel have been a rather considerable handicap to the executive work. No adequate machinery has been set up to meet this difficulty. This is particularly noticeable in the matter of committee reports, of round tables, of advisory committee reports and recommendations.

Since committees used to be appointed to prepare programs for the conference, specific matters would be investigated and brought to the attention of the membership. In this way a round table discussion would bring out matters of interest to hospital librarians, college librarians, catalogers, etc. In the absence of these round tables, it would seem wise to have round table chairmen appointed who would have papers prepared on timely topics, and have them published. At present the hospital round table group would have pertinent matters to bring up. The hospitals are developing libraries for patients, doctors, nurses, and The problems confronting the sisters. Catholic hospital librarian are quite different from the problems of the school librarian. He looks for aid to the Catholic Library Association. Similarly, the director of a Catholic rental library. parish library, or book store has a series of problems, quite different from those of his non-Catholic associates. Catholic Library Association should give him some help. It seems that we shall have to wait a year or two before we can have a national conference, and, meantime, these associates of ours must receive timely aids in their work. Either special publications meant principally for them will have to be circulated or they will have to receive more space in the Catholic Library World. It seems almost too much to ask the individual chairmen of the round tables devoted to this work to circularize all the members and to keep up constant correspondence with them. Unless some active program is initiated and maintained, they will lose interest in the organization. It may be possible to work out a method whereby the respective chairmen with the secretary-treasurer, will devise programs, questionnaires, and the like and the central office will take care of the distribution and tabulation of the work.

The Catholic Library World is the one strong binding link for all the members of the Association. We depend on that for news of what is going on in various units, for knowledge of any special ideas that have developed, and for professional stimulation. This is a great deal to expect of one publication. It could meet these functions much better if all unit chairmen were to send in promptly reports of unit meetings, and if good, interesting papers presented at unit meetings were sent in to the editor. At present, even if more material were available for printing, it would be difficult to obtain much more paper. However, it might be wise to sacrifice occasionally at least one or other feature, v.g. the biographical article, to make room for a professional article or for a discussion of some of our problems or procedures.

New library schools have been opened, their attendance is growing steadily. These are good signs. The more trained librarians we have, the better work we can do. We do not have nearly enough trained librarians in the elementary schools, hospital libraries, or in parish libraries. The new schools of library science deserve our wholehearted support.

The twenty-three units of the Catholic Library Association really represent its strength. Many of these units have from four to six meetings annually. Some of their programs now are better than the national programs of years back. This increase of interest, of professional skill, and of a spirit of cooperation shows how much can be done. Every unit is free to set up its own program, choose its own

officers, and work on its own problems as it sees fit. It has been a real pleasure to receive reports on the unit meetings, copies of papers that were presented and copies of the unit publications. Some units have taken out a sustaining or a contributing membership in the Catholic Library Association as a means of giving more financial help to the central organization and of showing their appreciation of the assistance they have received. It may well be that the cancellation of the national conferences has helped bring out the local talent. Those who felt the need of a conference and knew they could not attend a national conference have gathered the librarians of their own neighborhood for a meeting. In this way many more have been taking an active part in the meetings and many more have been taking an active part in the meetings and many who in normal times could not have arranged to travel a long distance to a national meeting were able to attend a local meeting. In this way, considerable interest was generated and a new, lively library spirit created. It would be almost an ideal situation when each unit will have an active chairman for each major library activity to cooperate with the national chairman, v.g. in National Catholic Book Week, Membership, Elementary School Library Committee, Publicity, Hospital Libraries, Parish Libraries, etc. It is not too difficult to set up a national program on paper; it is important that each library take an active part in the program. It is very important that the smaller libraries be kept informed, for most of those whom we wish to have participate will be in smaller libraries. If all the units are active, alive and alert, the national program will surely be successful. There

are still a few areas without an active unit. It is to be hoped that some members in those areas will find the time, energy, and the inspiration—all three are required—to form units in those places. The chairmen of the local units are members of the advisory committee, and thus have an excellent opportunity of bringing their experience to bear in forming the policies of the national organization.

The number of members is always a matter of concern. It should be interesting and informative to make a survey to find out how many members have dropped out of the organization in the last five years, their reasons for dropping out, and what might induce them to return. Some well informed librarians think our potential membership is about 16,000. If that figure is correct, there must be some substantial reason to explain why we have about one-fifteenth of that number. Among the potential members there are 55 seminaries, 246 scholasticates, 224 colleges, 1443 diocesan and parish high schools, 753 private high schools, 7,436 elementary schools, 527 private schools, 160 protective institutions, besides nearly a thousand hospitals, the book publishers, book binders, library supply houses and many others. This estimate does not include parish libraries, the club houses of the Knights of Columbus, the Catholic Daughters and other organizations that have reading and study club programs. nor does it take into account many personal memberships, the public libraries, and book dealers. It may well be that the services we offer are not well enough known, or where known are not sufficiently impressive. It is a fact, however, that where a publicity campaign is put on, lasting memberships do result. The colleges would be attracted by a good

Catholic supplement to the Shaw list, and by good bibliographies on recent topics of Catholic interest, the Catholic angle on labor problems, peace proposals, etc. The hospitals want suggestions to meet their needs for a quadruple library, where the total amount of money to be spent is not enough to maintain four libraries. Each group wants suggestions on ways of meeting its own specific needs.

It may be that the answer to some of our problems is a little reorganization. with a full time executive secretary with adequate assistance and equipment, and that this office would act as a control over many other activities, as well as a stimulus to them. The officers have almost more work to do than is reasonable to expect of them. They cannot make the Catholic Library Association their full time interest. At present, at least, the president's position could take a person's full time. The secretarytreasurer now has a full time assistant, but cannot give her own full time to association work. There is a great deal of careful thinking and planning to be done, and this cannot be done in spare moments. It would not be at all difficult for the Executive Council to outline a program for the organization that would keep a central staff well occupied.

The question of funds comes up inevitably. A conservative estimate from an experienced director of a national organization is that the minimum effective annual budget is \$10,000. Such a budget would enable us to increase the staff at the central office, finance services to the members, and enable us to pay incidental expenses for various committees. One project was held up for the lack of about \$600 for typing. Officials traveling on

(Continued on page 289)

# Report on C.L.A. Units and Conferences

By RICHARD JAMES HURLEY, Chairman, Advisory Board

In a Message to the Annual Conference for 1944 of the Greater St. Louis Unit, our past President, Reverend Andrew L. Bouwhuis, S. J. made this highly significant and pertinent statement: "The Catholic Library Association will be no stronger than its units. If each individual unit has an interested, zealous chairman and executive board, then the whole Association will flourish." The following synthesis of the information about units and conferences supplied in answer to a questionnaire sent them in May of 1944 confirms Father Bouwhuis' observation. The Catholic Library Association is equal to the sum of its units. Therefore, what are they doing, what can they do, what should they do?

A short history of the development of the units is needed for an interpretation of their activities. The Association itself was until 1931 the Library Section of the National Catholic Education Association. At a meeting in Philadelphia, June 22, 23 of that year, under the direction of Dr. Francis E. Fitzgerald, a distinct library association was organized. However, the late, beloved Father Foik is credited as our first President. Regional meetings were held in the Mid-West, Pacific Northwest and the East with the first annual convention in Cincinnati, June 27-30, 1932. It was two years later that a Unit was established, the Brooklyn-Long Island Unit, under the inspiration

of Dr. William A. FitzGerald, then librarian of Brooklyn Preparatory School. This was the first legally organized Unit of the Association with the happy date of Ascension Thursday, 1934. One of its early leaders was Brother Thomas, our recently elected Vice-President and President-Elect.

The first project was a survey of periodicals taken by libraries in the Unit to promote the Catholic Periodical Index. The booklists of this pioneer Unit are a regular feature of its Catholic Book Week celebration: 2000 copies are distributed. Associated in the vicinity are other units. The New York-New Jersey Unit was set up in 1938 for school librarians and fully organized March 18, Previously, there seems to have 1939. been a New York Unit organized November 12, 1937. On May 1, 1941 a Metropolitan Catholic College Librarians Unit was formed and approved in April, 1943. This latter is the first such specialized unit and is directed by Brother Thomas, librarian of Manhattan College, Twentytwo colleges are members and an elaborate directory of them has been published. The New York-New Jersey Unit owes its origin to Mr. Laurence Leavey. editor of the Catholic Periodical Index. with a reorganization in 1939 under Brother Paul Ambrose, now of the Marist Normal Institute, Poughkeepsie, N. Y. Interestingly enough it is divided into a

School Group and a Public Library Group with their respective programs. Recently the latter group seems to have become distinct with its own Chairman.

In October 12, 13 of 1934 a Delaware Unit was set up through the activity of Mother Agatha, librarian of the Ursuline Academy, Wilmington, Delaware, but this seems to have lapsed. An Institute was held at that time and this procedure was followed by the indefatigable Mother Agatha in the organization of the Rochester Unit which was approved June 1, 1935. This Unit has also lapsed, although there has been a recent revival of interest. On February 22, 1935, the Greater St. Louis Unit was begun by the well-known Reverend Henry H. Regnet, S. J., then librarian of St. Louis University. This is a very active unit and, cooperating with Brother Sylvester. Chairman of Catholic Book Week, promises to make a real contribution to this year's program.

On September 25, 1937 an Oregon local unit was begun at Providence Academy, Vancouver, Washington, and the next year the energetic Brother David, librarian of the University of Portland. organized the Oregon-Washington Unit. In March, 1939 this was formally installed as the Northwest or Oregon-Washington Regional Unit. When the Boise, Idaho Unit was added April 11, 1943 the title was changed to the Pacific Northwest Regional Unit. Because of the great distances involved this consists of six local units: Portland and Mount Angel, Oregon; Seattle, Tacoma and Spokane, Washington and Boise, Idaho. The Book Fairs held in the large cities of this unit are a model for others to follow. On October 20, 1937 the Northern Ohio Unit came into existence and a month later the Colorado, Iowa, Kansas,

Missouri, Nebraska and Oklahoma Regional Unit, which on October 14, 1939 became the Mid-West Unit, omitting the St. Louis Archdiocese. This also includes the Wichita Diocesan Library Unit of this diocese, and those schools and hospitals out of the Diocese and State operated by Sisters whose Motherhouse is in the Diocese of Wichita. The Wichita group organized on April 18, 1938. The great distances involved preclude anything but a two-day annual conference which is noted for its speakers and program. It has listed local history materials, surveyed progressional talent and its parish libraries. The Wichita local unit is an example of what can be done, with the establishment of a vigorous Catholic Action Bookshop under the direction of Sister M. Petrona, a library placed in every hospital and some sixty school libraries to its credit. A neighbor, the Minnesota-Dakota Regional Unit, was organized November, 1937. On December 4, 1937, the dynamic Western New York Regional Unit, with the title Western New York Catholic Librarians' Conference, came into existence under the direction of Father Bouwhuis. Its Library Bulletin has nation-wide distribution and it has two Institutes to its credit as well as an amazing record of school library organization in Buffalo.

The Illinois Regional Unit also came into eistence during December of 1937, although Dr. William A. FitzGerald came to Chicago in June of 1936 to organize a unit. There seems some evidence that the first unit meeting was held on February 12, 1936 with the President of the Association, Reverend Peter J. Etzig, presiding. The Unit has been distinguished by its excellent meetings and the fight led by Brothers John Victorian and Hugh Elzear to have the North Cen-

tral Association modify the Evaluative Criteria of the Cooperative Study of Secondary Schools for Catholic schools. On December 8, 1937, the Wisconsin Unit also came into our family with the initial meeting at Messmer High School on March 10, 1936. Again, Father Etzig was the organizer. After his untimely death, Sister M. Ildephonse kept the group together and it is still active. The Unit has purchased Catholic literature for the soldiers of Camp McCoy and last year issued a lengthy collection of plays, games and ideas for Catholic Book Week.

For two years, unit making seems to have lagged. In December of 1939, when Mr. Laurence Leavey joined the Department of Library Science at Catholic University, he proceeded to organize the Washington - Maryland - Virginia Unit. From this Unit has come the Catholic High School Catalog, the Catholic Book Week Handbook and the Victory Book List for the armed forces. The Greater Cincinnati Unit was organized April 21, 1939 and has functioned successfully since then with special accent on Catholic Book Week. Poster contests and bulletins of suggestions have been featured. The Pittsburgh Unit held its first special meeting on October 27, 1940 at Mount Mercy College and the first regular meeting on March 1, 1941 with Sister Hieronyme and Sister M. Gertrude in charge. Membership is drawn from the dioceses of Pittsburgh, Erie and Altoona. Among its activities were: a reading list of public library books suitable for Catholic grade school children, a bibliography of Catholic authors writing on Latin America, and a checklist of periodicals indexed in Poole's. The summer of 1941 saw, at Villanova College, the beginning of the Philadelphia Area Unit under the

leadership of Sister M. Borromeo of Mater Misericordiae Academy and Brother E. Ignatius of LaSalle College. Part of this Unit is the Philadelphia Catholic Adult Literature Group with the purpose of purchasing Catholic books for the public library. The Michigan Unit was organized March 29, 1942 at Marygrove College by Sister Marie Virginia with membership from the Detroit metropolitan area. The superb booklist on racial unity by Father Vincent Dieckman in the March issue of the Catholic Library World is an example of unit activity. Little is known about the Mid-South Unit with a single note in the May, 1934 issue of the Catholic Library World. Meanwhile, on April 13, 1943 the Galveston-Houston Unit was organized under Mother Cecilia Moore at the residence of Bishop Byrne of Galveston, and has been active since then. On April 11, 1944 the Boise Unit was begun by Sister M. Catherine Eileen, librarian of Holy Names College, Spokane and Sister Mary Edna of Marycliffe High School. following month a two-day Book Fair was held; much is expected from such vigor. The Albany Unit was proposed September 30, 1944 at a meeting presided over by Father Bouwhuis at St. Rose College and early in 1945 the Unit was regularly organized. The Scranton Unit had its inception December 14, 1944 under the leadership of the Reverend John J Maher, diocesan superintendent schools, the Library Science Department of Marywood College, the University of Scranton, and College Misercordia, Dallas. In March, 1945 the Unit began its official life. Fifty-seven members were present at the May meeting.

Four observations can be drawn from the above history of the Units. One: that

the leaders of the Catholic Library Association have come from these Units in whose activities they have found a fertile training ground. Two: that the contributions to the progress of the Association are proportionate to the interest of the individual units. Three: Units or Regional Conferences should be established in our "barren" spots - New England, the South Central States, the Southwest, California and the Mountain States. It was hoped that Sacramento would become a Unit some time ago. Fourth: the creation of groups in Canada, Mexico, Ireland, France, England and other countries should be considered seriously.

Another phase of Unit work was revealed in the answers to the questionnaire sent out in the spring of 1944 asking for sixteen items of information. In 1942 Father Bouwhuis also issued a questionnaire and on September 24, 1940 Father Shanahan wrote a lengthy letter to the Chairmen of the Regional and Local Units in his capacity as Chairman of the Advisory Board. Both of these are reflected in the following observations:

Terminology differs with the units. Committees may or may not exist and vary from permanent committees, such as Ways and Means, Catholic Book Week, Publicity, Membership, Information Bureau, Literary Guild and Investigation, to temporary committees, such as, Rummage Sale, Election, and Book Fair. Nearly all groups have sections for elementary and high schools, colleges, public libraries, parish libraries and hospitals. Good results seem to come from the frequent and independent meetings of the sections and occasional general meetings. This is especially true where distances are great and transportation difficult.

Eleven of the nineteen active units have a constitution, modeled mainly on that of the Association. As a constitution is essential to well-rounded organization, it seems highly desirable that every unit have such a constitution.

Dues vary from not any to \$1.50 a year. Where a publication is issued, a carrying charge is made. Often a fee of twenty-five cents is charged for each meeting, possibly to take care of refreshments. One unit has a charge of fifty cents for active members and \$1 for associate members. Aside from the cost of a publication, a unit has expenses and an adequate membership fee should be charged. Psychologically this is also sound business.

Meetings vary from an annual gathering, as in the Mid-West Unit, to a meeting every month, as at Boise. Two meetings per year, one in the autumn and one in the spring, seems to be the average. An annual meeting is usually a two-day affair. Sometimes divisions meet independently throughout the year. A oneday meeting usually consists of a business session and general meeting in the morning and section meetings in the afternoon. Where there is any distance involved, certainly an all-day conference should be planned as it is scarcely worth while to travel fifty miles for a two-hour session.

Difficulties encountered involve distance, transportation, the dominance of large cities, publicity in local Catholic papers and lack of finances. The airplane and end of World War II may remedy a few of these. Publicity involves knowing the right people and having interesting programs. Finances can be solved in just one way.

The activities of the Units have been indicated to some extent—they are many, important and inspiring. Each Unit might well consider undertaking a specific project—one of several the President of the Association will be only too happy to suggest-both for local improvement and national service. Publications form an important feature as the Library Bulletin of the Western New York group, the Pacific Catholic Librarian of the Pacific-Northwest Unit, the Illinois Catholic Librarian of the Illinois Unit, the News Letter of the Greater Cincinnati Unit, the monthly News Letter of the Wichita Diocesan Unit and the quarterly News Letter of the Pittsburgh Unit. Catholic Book Week has now its special Chairman in most units with poster and essay contests, bulletins of ideas, bookmarks, such as the 5000 distributed in 1944 by the Washington - Maryland - Virginia Unit, booklist posters such as the several thousand issued by the Pittsburgh Unit, radio broadcasts, fairs, assemblys and displays. Many issue membership directories, compile bibliographies and make surveys. In Wichita, library service has been placed in every hospital. Other activities include protesting objectionable literature. making union lists of periodicals and exchanges, organizing school libraries and running Institutes.

The recommendations made to the Association indicate a real desire to do something. Many of them centered around the Catholic Periodical Index—better publicity, more magazines, other magazines, etc. The elementary section of the Association was the concern of several Units. Others recommended: a manual for organizing units, a unit newspaper exchange, unit union library catalog, headquarters for Catholic "Friends of the Library", the promotion of a Cath-

olic current event periodical, protesting of objectionable material, names of new members sent to respective unit chairmen and a history of the units. They deserve serious consideration and whereever possible, effective action.

On the other hand, the attention of Unit Chairmen and officers is called to these vital concerns of the Association—concerns which Father Shanahan once described as "essential parts of the structure of a unit":

- There must be a constant effort to secure and retain as members all eligible persons or institutions in the district. Every Unit should have a Membership Chairman.
- 2. Publicity in local papers, both diocesan and secular, and in The Catholic Library World in advance of meetings and after their conclusion. In some Units this seems to be an unknown quantity. If we don't respect ourselves, nobody else will. Have a Publicity Chairman!
- 3. The Catholic Periodical Index has been for fourteen years the major concern of the Association. It will soon be debt free. Not only is it an essential reference tool but it will provide funds for your work—OUR work. Other projects of the Association, such as the Catholic Supplement to the Standard Catalog, for High School Libraries, and Handbook for Catholic Book Week, should be supported.
- 4. The establishment and growth of parish and Catholic lending libraries should be given priority in Unit work. Every Unit should have a library-laboratory, a vigorous, dynaamic bookshop to promote books and reading.

(Continued on page 294)

## The Thomas More Foundation

By Joseph N. Corcoran, Executive Secretary

The Thomas More Foundation, a Catholic public library, opened in April, 1945 at 214 South Sixteenth Street, Philadelphia. Problems of financing, securing the books, and overcoming the wartime shortages in labor and material have all been solved. This article will develop the practical aspects of organization, as it is unnecessary to explain to Catholic librarians the benefits of such an enterprise. However, an explanation of some of the factors involved may stimulate others to similar activity.

The Library is chartered as a public library under the Pennsylvania non-profit corporation law. The name, Thomas More Foundation, was selected because there are among its members five judges and many lawyers. It is open to the public regardless of race, creed or color. Until adequate endowments are secured, it will operate on a rental basis, the exact details of which are to be formulated.

The Library collection is catalogued according to the Library of Congress system, with modifications to suit its particular needs. Sister M. Borromeo, R.S.M., supervisor of libraries of the Sisters of Mercy, is the supervisor and cataloguer. Sister holds an M.S. in Library Science from Columbia University. She recatalogued the Villanova College Library, and was first chairman of the Philadelphia Unit of the Catholic Library Association.

Before starting the work, Sister Borromeo visited libraries throughout the East. Reverend Andrew Kelly of the Catholic Lending Library of Hartford, Connecticut, Mother Agatha, O.S.U., of the Wilmington, Delaware, Library, Miss Henderson of the Catholic Book Service, New York, Mr. Quinn, director of the Don Bosco Library, Brooklyn, New York, and others, were unsparing of their advice.

The officers and directors of the library are all laymen with a clerical advisory board, headed by the Most Reverend Hugh L. Lamb, Auxiliary Bishop of Philadelphia. The organization is patterned after the well-known Men of Malvern who conduct a retreat house for men. It is an apostolic work for laymen.

In the difficult task of selecting books, we were aided by advice from members of the Clerical Advisory Board, and we used The Guide to Catholic Literature, Best Sellers and Books on Trial. Reverend Joseph C. Bartley, O.S.A., Ph.D., Dean of the School of Business Administration of Villanova College, and Reverend Andrew L. Ostheimer, Ph.D., professor at Roman Catholic High School, Philadelphia, prepared lists of books in the fields of economics and sociology. Many other scholars and experts assisted in their special fields.

The committee was cautious in accepting gifts of books and required prospective

donors to present a list for approval. The writer contributed about 3,000 volumes. and Benjamin Musser, Catholic poet and author, gave a large number of excellent volumes. Other donors of sizeable collections include Mr. Joseph P. Kerrigan, of Philadelphia, and Mrs. John A. Murphy, of Merion, Pennsylvania. Many dealers in used books were particularly helpful. Full-page advertisements for Catholic books were placed in Want List, a publication circulating among used book dealers. Hundreds of answers offering thousands of books were received from these advertisements, and nearly 500 separate orders have been placed with used book dealers in the United States and foreign countries.

Approximately 6,400 books have been accessioned, of which about 5,000 are non-fiction. The collection is not limited to books by Catholic authors, but will include any decent book. However, the Library will specialize in books by Catholic writers or books about the Church. It will endeavor to secure all Catholic books in print, except purely devotional items, fiction, and books intended principally for priests or theological students.

The Library is especially rich in Catholic biographies, with about 1,000 such items on its shelves. It has about sixty volumes each of Belloc and Chesterton. In an attempt to reach non-Catholics, books suitable for this purpose are stocked, particularly biographies of and books by converts. Several non-Catholics have already reserved the twenty-two volumn translation of the Summa of St. Thomas Aquinas, and contributions have been made by non-Catholics who are interested in patronizing the Library.

It is planned to develop sections in foreign languages. The writer is presenting a loan collection of Gaelic books, including many rare dictionaries and grammars.

Another development anticipated is a collection of books relating to the countries which have a Catholic heritage and background, such as Italy, Spain, Portugal, France, Poland, Belgium, Ireland, Austria, and Lithuania, both in translation and in the original languages. The writer has also contributed a loan collection of books on Ireland and the activities of the Irish throughout the world. It is expected that this section will draw many interested readers. The Polish Roman Catholic Union of Chicago has contributed considerable material on Poland and has drawn up a selected list in this field, which the Library will purchase as the books become available.

One of the features of the Library will be a section dealing with the origin and meaning of family names. These books will be in the reference section.

There is no juvenile section in the Library at present, but the children's literature has not been omitted from the plans still to be developed.

Only pamphlets will be sold, the Library has no desire to compete with established Catholic booksellers. A limited number of Catholic magazines and papers will be carried and this collection will be expanded as needed.

The entire Library is being indexed in the Union Library Catalogue at the University of Pennsylvania, which lists all books in virtually every library in Philadelphia and vicinity. Arrangements will be made through the courtesy of the Catholic College Librarians Section of the Philadelphia Unit of the Catholic Library Association for inter-library loan with the Thomas More Foundation.

(Continued on page 295)

CATHOLIC BOOK WEEK, 1945 Brother J. Sylvester, F.S.C., Chairman

Catholic Book Week for 1945 will be observed November fourth to tenth. In this last issue of the current volume of *The Catholic Library World*, we remind librarians, teachers, and group leaders that promotion should begin now in order that a program well planned may be readily developed when schools and colleges reopen in September. All are urged to enthusiastic participation in Catholic Book Week activity which, this year, is significantly keyed to the worldwide problem of peace.

The slogan, Keys to World Peace—Christian Books, is sufficiently broad in scope and thoughtfully suggestive to allow speakers and writers much latitude in interpretation, enlargement, fervor and imagination. Its theme is sounded not only in books that treat specifically of peace, but in all classes of literature—fiction and non-fiction, adult and juvenile—in which may be found that note of truth and justice and charity which opens the way to an understanding of human relationships. The Committee encourages individual ingenuity in applying the slogan effectively.

The official Catholic Book Week Poster will be ready for distribution early in September. It will be the prize-winning poster selected from the All-American competition sponsored jointly by the Catholic School Journal and the Catholic Library Association. The students of every Catholic high school and college in the United States and Canada are eligible for entry in the contest which began on April 15 and will continue until June 15.

Since its inauguration in 1940, Catholic Book Week has been the project of

the Catholic Library Association. It grew out of a clearly recognized need for a planned program that would provide an efficient means for the promotion of worthwhile books. Its observance has received the approval of the bishops of our country, and during the past five years, programs have been carried through with mounting enthusiasm. This year plans for a nationwide observance broader than has been attempted heretofore are well under way. Committee organization has been completed in thirty-seven states, and it is justifiably believed that within a few weeks arrangements will have been extended to include the entire country.

In order to motivate and vitalize the activities of Catholic Book Week, the local chairmen are reminded of the following objectives: 1. To call attention to the magnificent role of the Catholic Church as patron of good literature; 2. To pay tribute to Catholic books and Catholic authors; 3. To impress the general reader with the richness of their literary heritage, and reveal the interesting, entertaining and inspiring character of Catholic books; 6. To pay tribute to the efforts of Catholic publishers; 7. To encourage authorship among Catholics. It is confidently believed that every person, who is convinced of the importance of these objectives, will earnestly direct his ingenuity and imagination to such activities as book fairs, exhibits, lectures, panels, assemblies, radio announcements and broadcasts, symposiums, dramatizations, book list distribution, book reviewing, etc. Plans should be stimulated by the wealth of suggestions provided in the Handbook for Catholic Book Week, compiled by Richard J. Hurley, President of the Catholic Library Association. Every effort is being made to have the Handbook on the market before September first.

The observance of Catholic Book Week is not confined to the students of the schools and the colleges. Adults are also expected to participate either as heads of families, members of parishes, sodalities, confraternities, fraternal and social organizations, clubs, etc. This year special stress is being placed on the adult phases of promotion. The national director is looking hopefully to all organizations and institutions, Catholic and non-Catholic, which may be desirous of expressing their loyalty to God and Country by fostering a love of good reading. A generous response has been received from a number of societies who have publicized the observance in their official organs, such as Columbia, The Catholic Forester.

The Catholic Book Week Committee recommends reciprocal cooperation with the non-sectarian promotion of Children's Book Week. Information concerning the material, which the committee in charge has very generously called to our attention as being readily adaptable to our program, may be obtained by writing to Miss Laura Harris, Director of Children's Book Week, 62 West 45th Street, New York 19, New York. Further information regarding Catholic Book Week will be supplied upon application to Brother J. Sylvester, F.S.C., Director of Catholic Book Week, 6501 Clayton Road, St. Louis 17, Missouri; and Miss Dorothy E. Lynn, Secretary-Treasurer, The Catholic Library Association, P. O. Box 631, Scranton 1, Pennsylvania; or any of the regional chairmen.

#### HISTORY AND HOPES

(Continued from page 280) library association business should not have to ask their college or their friends for travel expenses. One publication now under consideration may have to be delayed because the means of financing the printing costs are not available. It is not reasonable to ask the printer to wait for his money.

Several proposals have been made to raise the necessary funds. One suggestion was to increase the dues, but that does not seem feasible. If each unit would take out a special membership, that would help. Further, if each unit would try to get new institutional and individual memberships, we should have more influence and power in that area as well as greater revenue from it. Meantime, each member might help as much as he can by cooperating with the rest of the members in exchanging ideas, in writing for the Catholic Library World, and by getting more subscribers for the Catholic Periodical Index. If our association does enough worthwhile work, gives real assistance to the members and if this fact is well known, there will not be much difficulty about enrolling new members and about obtaining the support we need.

Since it is highly improbable that we can have a national conference for some time, it seems wise to have a meeting of the Executive Council and the Advisory Board some time in August, in Chicago, or in St. Louis. In such a meeting, the past officials could give detailed reports on the business of the organization; they could reply to the questions the representatives of the twenty-three units would want to put to them and the new officers could know quite definitely just what support they would receive from the members, and just how their own plans will be received.

There is a great work to be done; let us work together toward its accomplishment.

## News and Notes

#### UNIT MEETINGS

#### ALBANY

The Albany Unit met on Saturday, May 12th at the College of St. Rose for the final meeting of the first year. Reverend Harold C. Gardiner, S.J., Literary Editor of America, was the principal speaker. His address was on "Book Reviewing" and was followed by discussion.

The first-year program of the Unit was successful in its contribution to the literary enjoyment of the members, and in its gradually increasing membership in the C.L.A. Among the speakers presented during the year were: Reverend Andrew L. Bouwhuis, S.J.; Mrs. Florence Tredick, Supervisor of School Libraries, Schenectady, New York; Reverend William F. Cahill, Moderator of the Book Review Club of the Albany Circle, I.F.C.A.; Miss Anna Clark Kennedy, New York State Supervisor of School Libraries: Reverend Joseph Cantillon, S.J., Librarian of Regis High School, New York City; and Father Gardiner.

More than twenty new memberships in the national Association have been received, and the local membership has been increased to sixty-six. The average attendance at meetings has been between 125-150.

Officers for the year 1945-46 were elected at the May meeting. They include: Chairman, Sister Anna Clare, Librarian, College of St. Rose; Vice-Chairman, Sister Mariana, Academy of the Holy Names; Secretary-Treasurer, Helen C. Welsh, Librarian, Philip Schuyler High School, Albany; Executive Council:

Miss Catherine Dusten, Assistant Librarian, Periodical Room, N. Y. State Library; Mrs. William R. Whitfield, Catholic Women's Service League of Albany, and Sister M. Dorothea, Librarian, St. John's Academy, Rensselaer, New York.

#### BROOKLYN-LONG ISLAND

St. Brendan's Diocesan High School was host to the members of the Brooklyn-Long Island Unit at a meeting held Ascension Thursday. Sister Mary David, Principal, welcomed the group. Right Reverend Henry M. Hald, Associate Superintendent of Catholic Schools, Diocese of Brooklyn, spoke to the members about the essential importance of libraries in the elementary schools.

In the election of officers which was held during the business meeting, Mr. Thomas V. Reiners, Librarian-Archivist of Brooklyn Preparatory School, was elected chairman; Mr. Francis X. McDermott, Librarian of Cathedral College, Brooklyn, was elected secretary. The meeting concluded with a round table discussion of plans for the effective celebration of the 1945 Book Week. Mr. McDermott, Unit chairman of the Book Week Committee, led the discussion and distributed an excellent list of books exemplifying the slogan, "Keys to World Peace—Christian Books".

The new officers in behalf of all members of the Unit, desire here to record their debt of gratitude to Sister Mary Louise, Librarian of Bishop McDonnell Memorial High School, Brooklyn, who so devotedly and capably acted as chairman during the past year.

#### WESTERN NEW YORK

The Western New York Catholic Librarians' Conference met at Canisius College on Saturday, May 19. Reverend Bernard J. Magee, chairman of the Unit, presided. Reverend Andrew L. Bouwhuis, S.J., was the principal speaker. His topic: "The Catholic Library Association: What You Expect of It, and What It Expects of You."

#### New York-New Jersey

"Good literature must survive despite world conditions," was the theme of the talk given by the Reverend Harold C. Gardiner, S.J., at the meeting held April 14th at the Ursuline School, New Rochelle, New York.

Mother Anastasia, O.S.U., librarian of the Ursuline School, briefly discussed the problem of student assistants. Reverend Joseph Cantillon, S.J., librarian of Regis High School, explained the reading list drawn up for Religious Book Week. Reverend Louis A. Rongione, O.S.A., concluded the business meeting.

#### MID-SOUTH

The fourth annual meeting of the Mid-South Unit was held at the National Catholic Community Service Lounge in Nashville, Tennessee, Saturday, April 21st. The theme of the morning session was: The Catholic Library in the Postwar South. Reverend William Barclay, diocesan superintendent of schools, delivered the principal address. Sister Esther Marie, O.P., Siena College, discussed Catholic Periodicals, Their Place in the Progressive Library; Organization, Work and Advantages of the Catholic Reading Circle were discussed by Mrs. Henry Kramer, Aquinas Club, Memphis; Reading aims and aids in the elementary school, by Sister Miriam, O.P., St. Cecilia Academy; The C.L.A. Training and the Elementary School Library Services, by

Sister Mary Canisius, S.C.N., Nazareth College. In the afternoon the following papers were presented: Catholic Community Library as it Functions at Immaculate Mother Academy, Mother M. Ignacio, Immaculate Mother Academy; The Catholic Bookstore, A Literary Asset, Reverend Thomas P. Duffy, Diocesan Chancellor; Catholic Book Week, How to Observe It, Evalyne Howington, East Nashville High School; Catholicism in Its Relation to the Russian World of Tomorrow, Morgan Reynolds, The Nashville Banner.

#### WASHINGTON-MARYLAND-VIRGINIA

The Washington - Maryland - Virginia Unit held their final meeting of the year at St. Rose's Technical School, Washington, D. C. Sister Joan Marie, librarian, was hostess. The meeting opened with a prayer for the repose of the soul of our late President, and for divine guidance for his successor in office.

Reverend Edward Peters, C.S.P., Professor of Scripture at St. Paul's College, spoke on "The Vatican Library and other Libraries in Rome". Father Peters took a course in Library Science at the Vatican during his three years stay in Rome where he studied for his degree in Scripture and he had many interesting experiences to relate.

Announcement was made of the officers for the coming year: Chairman, Reverend Hugh J. Phillips of Mount St. Mary's Seminary; Vice-Chairman, Miss Margaret Carmichael of Dumbarton College; Secretary-Treasurer, Miss Mary Dixon, American Red Cross Library.

#### SCRANTON

Election of officers was conducted at the May meeting of the Scranton Diocesan Unit which was held at St. Nicholas School, Wilkes-Barre. The first officers of the Unit are: Chairman, Reverend Aloysius J. Miller, S.J., University of Scranton; Vice-Chairman, Sister Davidica, R.S.M., St. Mary's High School, Wilkes-Barre; Secretary-Treasurer, Sister M. Denis, Marywood College, Scranton.

BOOKS FOR DEVASTED LIBRARIES

Milton E. Lord, Chairman of the Joint Committee on Books for Devastated Libraries has issued the following advice to American libraries, publishers, learned societies and individuals who are receiving appeals for books and periodicals to be sent to foreign institutions in devastated areas:

"At the present time the situation is confused because the postwar status and eventual location of many foreign institutions and their libraries are still unknown.

"It seems desirable, therefore, to advise that libraries and others continue to hold books and periodicals destined for overseas until further information is avail-This will protect the interests of many worthy institutions which might be overlooked while distribution was being made to organizations which are in a position to make direct appeals now. The whole situation is being investigated by the Joint Committee on Books for Devastated Libraries, which is planning to help coordinate all these efforts through a national book and periodical campaign. In connection with this an American Book Center for War Devastated Libraries is to be set up with the assistance of representatives of the various countries and interested organizations.

"Similarly, libraries and other institutions are receiving requests that publications held for exchange be forwarded now to certain representaives of foreign countries for distribution. It is recommended that these publications also be held until it is clear that delivery can be made actually to the institutions for which these materials are specifically intended."

#### L. C. INTERNSHIPS

The Library of Congress offers three internships in library administration for the fiscal year July 1, 1945 to June 30, 1946. These internships, which are available in the offices of the Chief Assistant Librarian, the Director of the Reference Department, and the Director of the Processing Department, will be awarded to graduates in library science on nominations made by the Board of Education for Librarianship of the American Library Association. The Board of Education will nominate three candidates for each internship from which final selections will be made by the Library of Congress.

Applications should be addressed to Miss Anita N. Hostetter, Secretary, Board of Education for Librarianship of the American Library Association, 520 N. Michigan Avenue, Chicago 11, Illinois, for receipt not later than May 15th. Applicants should specify the field in which an administrative internship is desired. A full statement of academic and profession education and experience in library service should be presented at the time application is made. At least three references should be given with knowledge of the professional and personal qualifications of the applicant.

The interns will have opportunity to apply specialized library training to general administration in the national library. The salary will be at the basic rate of \$2,000 per annum including one month of annual leave.

Lucile Fargo, associate professor, School of Library Science, Western Reserve University, author of novels for adolescent girls and pioneer in the establishment of school libraries, will end her work at Western Reserve in June and devote her full time to writing.

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#### OCCUPATIONAL GUIDANCE

Postwar employment prospects in eleven occupations are described in eleven different six-page Occupational Abstracts just revised and published by Occupational Index, Inc., New York University, New York 3, N. Y., at twenty-five cents each.

The occupations covered are: Banking, Boilermaker, Bookkeeping, City Fireman, Diesel Engines, Funeral Director, Insurance Salesman, Journalism, Police Officer, Stenographic Work, Veterinarian.

Each abstract summarizes available information on the nature of the work, abilities and training required, earnings, number and distribution of workers, advantages, disadvantages, and postwar prospects. Sources of further information and best references for additional reading are included.

## DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

(Continued from page 275)

The Library Science classes began in the summer of 1944 with the subjects recognized as a major in the School of Education. The work has the approval of the Pennsylvania Department of Public Instruction, and, therefore, all those satisfactorily completing the full year's work will be qualified as librarians in the State of Pennsylvania.

Fifty-one Sisters were registered for the initial summer season but two were unable to attend because of illness. There were thirteen religious communities represented; of the forty-nine Sisters attending, ten had M.A. degrees, nineteen had

B.A. or B.S. degrees, and twenty had advanced college credits.

The courses for the first session consisted of library work and administration, classification and cataloging, and reference and bibliography. The students and the school enjoyed special lectures given by Dr. Ralph Munn, director of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, Miss Alice McGirr, head of the Reference Department, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, and Reverend Robert Brown, Librarian, North Catholic High School, Pittsburgh.

The faculty for the courses in Library Science is composed of members of the Pittsburgh Unit who unselfishly have given of their time and talent to this worthy project for Catholic librarianship in the Diocese of Pittsburgh. The 1944 faculty consisted of Miss M. Gertrude Blanchard, Sister Melania Grace, S.C., librarian of Seton Hill College, and Sister M. Hieronyme, R.S.M., reference librarian at Duquesne University and founder of the Pittsburgh Unit.

The curriculum for the summer of 1945 has not yet been released, but it will follow a proper sequence to cover thirty credits in five summer sessions. It has been stated that if a sufficient number apply, the courses taught during the summer of 1944 will be repeated in addition to the cycle offerings.

The school has not lost contact with the summer students but continues to aid them throughout the year by means of quarterly meetings convoked at the request of the Superintendent of Schools and conducted by the director of the Diocesan Library Department. In this way problems that may arise when the student-librarian goes back to her library can be presented for discussion and possible solution. This, likewise, has the effect of molding the sister-librarians into a strong

centralized group carrying out the prescriptions of the Superintendent of Schools for the maintenance of diocesan library standards.

#### CARYLL HOUSELANDER

(Continued from page 271) sort. She wants them to arrive at the truth through their experience of God in their own lives. Long before she had anything published, she used to write articles about God in the city, hidden as it were in all sorts of ways, in people, and even in created manifestations of His beauty. These she used to give to city workers who copied them and handed them on to others. She thinks that "the great object of a Catholic writer ought to be to help people to see Christ, to see the beauty and breadth and poetry and wonder of the Faith, to see how it, and nothing else, gives meaning to suffering, increases joy, brings wisdom to flower, and satisfies the deepest instincts of human nature." With such beliefs and aspirations, Miss Houselander should go far in weaving the Christ-rhythm into other lives as she has woven it so beautifully into her own.

#### C.L.A. UNITS AND CONFERENCES

(Continued from page 285)

5. The elementary school library situation is a desperate one and offers our greatest field for accomplishment. A section for this purpose should be established in every unit. Two and a half million Catholic children are looking to us for library service in Catholic schools.

One final note—within the Units is the real life of the Association. Every effort must be made to bring them to their highest peak of efficiency. A caution if we do otherwise comes to us from our sister group, the American Library As-

sociation. Writing in the ALA Bulletin for June, 1944 one of their members says "It is my impression that a great majority of the library profession . . . regard the Association with deep indifference. . . . This basic cause is the passive role which most members have in the Association. Since they put little in, they get little out. It seems to them that they are desired simply to swell the statistics of membership and to provide through their dues those funds which are then dispensed for the welfare of the profession by a certain small clique . . ." Pray God that this never happens to the Catholic Library Association. Every Unit with a project. every member with a task!

#### CHAIRMEN

Washington, D. C. - Virginia: Reverend Hugh Phillips, Librarian, Mount St. Mary's College, Emmitsburg, Maryland.

Illinois: Reverend Harry Koenig, Librarian, Seminary of St. Mary, Mundelein, Illinois.

Wichita Diocese: Sister M. Dolores, Librarian, Sacred Heart Junior College, Wichita, Kansas. Midwest: Sister M. Petrona, Librarian, Catholic Action Bookshop, Wichita, Kansas.

Minnesota - Dakota: Sister M. Clarice, St. Agnes School, St. Paul, Minnesota.

St. Louis: Miss Eleanor Baer, Fontbonne, College, St. Louis, Missouri.

Brooklyn-Long Island: Thomas V. Reiners, Librarian, Brooklyn Preparatory School, Brooklyn, New York.

New York-New Jersey: Reverend Louis A. Rongione, Librarian, Augustinian Academy, Staten Island, New York.

(Public Library Group is under direction of: Reverend Joseph Cantillon, S. J. Regis High School, New York City.)

Metropolitan Catholic College: Brother Thomas, Librarian, Cardinal Hayes Library, Manhattan College, New York City.

Western New York: Reverend Bernard J. Magee, Librarian, The Little Seminary, Buffalo, New York.

Greater Cincinnati: Reverend F. J. Vonder Haar, Librarian, St. Gregory Seminary, Mount Washington, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Northern Ohio: Sister Mary Madeleine, H. H.

M., Librarian, Lourdes Academy, Cleveland, Ohio.

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Oregon - Washington Regional (Pacific Northwest): Miss Helen Kust, DeSales Catholic Library and Book Shop, Spokane, Washington.

Philadelphia: Reverend Richard J. Walsh, Librarian, Roman Catholic High School, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Pittsburgh: Sister Melania Grace, Librarian, Seton Hall Colege, Greensburg, Pennsylvania. Wisconsin: Sister M. Josepha, Librarian, Holy

Family College, Manitowoc, Wisconsin.

Michigan: Reverend Vincent Dieckman, Librarian, Duns Scotus College, Detroit, Michigan.

Albany: Sister Anna Clare, Librarian, St. Rose College, Albany, New York.

Scranton: Reverend Aloysius J. Miller, S. J., University of Scranton, Scranton, Pennsylvania. Boise: Sister Mary Coaina, Librarian, St. Teresa's Academy, Boise, Idaho.

Galveston - Houston: Reverend George Beck, St. Mary's Cathedral, Galveston, Texas.

Mid-South: Sister Roberta, O. P., St. Cecelia Academy, Nashville, Tennessee.

## THE THOMAS MORE FOUNDATION

(Continued from page 287)

It is planned to cover the book jackets with cellophane when this material is available. A bookbinder is coating the books with a newly invented plastic preparation which makes them waterproof, preserves the covers, and prevents staining. He is donating his services.

A store was selected as the proper site for the Library, to overcome non-Catholic opposition to entering a church edifice or a religious building. The capacity of the plant is about 10,000 books. Arrangements have been made to store books which are seldom used and duplicate copies, so that the shelf space actually will be much greater. Because of wartime scarcity, wooden shelving has been used. There are two display windows which will be decorated under the supervision of a member of the committee in charge of window displays in a large de-

partment store in Philadelphia. The opening display will be built around books on peace and will feature an illuminated manuscript painted by Sister Mary Julia, S.S.J., of the College of Chestnut Hill. This illumination attracted considerable attention when it was displayed at a recent exhibition. Its theme is the dona nobis pacem from the Agnus Dei of the Mass.

In the initial financing, two types of contributions were solicited — contributions to a fund consisting of \$1,000.00 or more, and a founder membership of \$100 or more. The list of Fund contributors is headed by His Eminence, Dennis Cardinal Dougherty, who has assisted the organizers in every possible way. Up to March 1, 1945, contributions totalling \$15,107 were secured, mostly through mail solicitations.

The process of organization has taken about two years of steady, hard work. The committee has been fortunate in securing the interest of most of the prominent Catholics of Philadelphia and The Chairman of the Camvicinity. paign Committee is John J. Sullivan, President of the Men of Malvern. The President is Judge Vincent A. Carroll, and among the Directors are John J. Harrington, President of the Philopatrian Club; John McShain, the contractor who erected the Pentagon Building in Washington, John A. Murphy, Walter B. Gibbons, Ignatius Hortsmann, Judge Clare Gerald Fenerty, and many other prominent lawyers, doctors, judges, business and professional men.

It is our hope that God will bless our effort and that the Library will give years of fruitful service to the Church and to America.

And this contributor is going to write a book—How to Organize a Catholic Library—if he ever finds the time to do it!

## **Book Reviews**

School libraries for today and tomorrow; functions and standards prepared by the Committee on post-war planning of the A.L.A. and the American Association of School Librarians. Chicago, A.L.A., 1945. 43p. \$1.00.

Edited under the chairmanship of Mary Peacock Douglas, state supervisor of school libraries in North Carolina who was assisted by numerous collaborators, this re-defining of library standards represents the latest thinking of a large part of the representative professional mind of today. However, school librarians and school administrators, familiar with existing criteria, especially the Cooperative Study of 1940,1 will fail to find here many new and radical ideas on standards and functions of the school library. They will find instead a re-statement and a revitalized interpretation of both qualitative and quantitative aspects of broad areas of this type of service.

Five large units of measurable factors are discusted and recommendations are made for all types of libraries, namely: "Service to Pupils and Teachers"; "Standards and Personnell"; "Book Collections and Other Library Resources": "Housing the Library"; and "Administration, Supervision and Extension". Headings like "Reading Program", and "Guidance Service", and "Audiovisual Aids" are not a new terminology in evaluative criteria for school libraries. They appeared and were emphasized in the Cooperative Study's first edition in 1938, but the A.L.A. defines and interprets these services qualitatively in its ways and means recommendations. This fact raises the question of similarities and differences between the 1945 A.L.A. and the 1940 Cooperative Study standards.

For the sake of comparison, three items, personnel, seating capacity, and budget will serve to point up the differences which are largely a matter of interpretation and of technique in evaluation. These particular areas of service are

chosen simply because they are quantitatively measurable. Under personnel the A.L.A. recommends as a base a full-time librarian for each 200-500 pupils through the ages 6-19; in schools of less than 200 there may be a teacher-librarian or itinerant professional librarian; also for 500-1000 pupils there is recommended a full-time clerical assistant with an additional assistant for each 1000 after the first. For a 200 pupil school the requirement is a part-time clerical assistant. By contrast the Cooperative Study is not nearly so specific. It admits of a great deal of subjective evaluation by allocating five personnel grades ranging from "very superior" to "very inferior" for five corresponding gradations of preparation from graduate library school to no training at all. Enrollment is not considered an immediate factor in analysis of effective and efficient personnel. Also under the caption "comments" appended to each of the items to be evaluated there is the added provision for subjective interpretation to compensate for particular features or shortcomings and justifications. Here is a genuine attempt to arrive at as complete a picture of service as is possible. But it is apparent that results in the one case are absolute; in the other, relative. The Cooperative thermometers also bear out this feature of relativity since their real meaning depends upon findings in schools of comparable size and class. In both cases, however, results are telling and indicate the status of the library in terms of good or poor service. Each fulfills its purpose in its own way.

As for seating capacity the A.L.A. is again mathematically specific. While both standards recognize the total school enrollment as the basis for this phase of service they differ in the proportion of students to be accommodated at one time. If enrollment exceeds 500, A.L.A. calls for 15-20 per cent of total number of students with 25 sq. ft. of floor space for each. If enrollment is less than 200, then the largest class plus 20 is the seating capacity of the library. Moreover, for

Cooperative study of secondary school standards. Library service. Form F. Washington, D. C., 1940.

every 1000 there is to be a reading room whose maximum capacity is 100 students. The Cooperative agrees in one respect only—per capita floor space; nevertheless, its provision for student attendance is minimum, namely, 10 per cent of enrollment and never less than the largest class, below which adequate facilities are impossible. The school library which fulfills the latter requirement is not found in the average bracket today and librarians of tomorrow will indeed be fortunate if they actually enjoy the A.L.A. "farsighted planning".

In the matter of finance A.L.A. stipulates an annual per capita book budget of \$1.50 regardless of size of school. This figure includes purchase of periodicals and other printed materials as well as supplies and cost of rebinding and pre-supposes a minimum active colection of five books per capita. Intelligent building calls for planned buying but without adequate funds neither is possible. This particular aspect of the Cooperative Study is perhaps its weakest point. It merely suggests that the budget be adequate and annual. How is "adequate" interpreted in the section "comments"? There is wide berth for subjective evaluation again. But this is partly controlled by a five year annual expenditure accounting for books and periodicals. It is true that the purposes of the two sets of standards are distinct; nevertheless, as a medium of self-survey and analysis the newer work has much in its favor.

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Sister M. Norberta, I.H.M., Marywood College, Scranton, Pennsylvania

The Catholic elementary school library; Proceedings of the Institute. Catholic University of America Press, 1944. 203p. \$2.00.

The twenty-one papers with their respective discussions constitute a milestone in the development of the elementary school library and indicate the increasing attention being paid to this type of service. Librarians, teachers and principals, religious supervisors and diocesan superintendents, pastors and publishers, authors and illustrators, representatives of national, state, county and local agencies-these and many others have contributed fresh, stimulating and constructive ideas. Every customary aspect of library development is covered-organizing the library, financing it, selecting books and magazines, using local and other resources, publicity, remedial reading, bibliotherapy, publishing of children's books and recent trends. The last but foremost paper "Invitation to Reading" by the beloved

Anne Carroll Moore is worth the two dollars alone. Several booklists are offered along with a number of original surveys-this is distinctly NOT a rehash of mouldy ideas from that proverbial procrustean bed. The galaxy of names of those making the formal addresses - Miss Moore, Anna Clark Kennedy, Edith Lathrop, Nora Beust, Dr. Thomas V. Moore, Agatha Shea, Gladys English, Irene Newman, Mary S. Wilkinson, Dr. Deady, Sister M. Fides, Sister M. Archangela, Sister M. Annette, Sister Marie Cecilia of St. Catherine's, Sister Margaret Rose of Our Lady of the Lake, Miss LeFevre of St. John's, Father Kahler, Mary Lucas, Dr. Keneally of the Child Clinic, Lillian Bragdon of Knopfs and Sister Nona of the American Citizenship Commission-gives an idea of the breadth and depth of the contents. And these are matched by equally well-known authorities who led the discussions. As a final word we have the addresses made in connection with the presentation of the Downey Award for 1944 to Alfred Noves.

For the latest and most progressive thought on the subject of elementary school library there is nothing to exceed this signal contribution. Everyone interested in the education of children should read the Proceedings. And congratulations to Father Mullin and Mary Kiely who saw the Institute through to its successful conclusion.

> RICHARD J. HURLEY, Catholic University of America

America in fiction. An annotated list of novels that interpret aspects of life in the United States. Revised edition. By Otis W. Coan and Richard G. Lillard. Stanford University Press, 1945. 162p. \$1.75.

The first edition of this bibliography was reviewed in The Catholic Library World, December, 1941, p. 93. Its purpose is still that of helping "readers (to) understand their country better through imaginative writings which present specific human beings in realizable situations." It is intended to serve those from the eleventh grade and over, including college undergraduates and adults who use public libraries. "By and large, novels in the list possess at least a minimum of excellence in both form and content."

In general, America in Fiction will prove helpful but certainly should not be placed in the hands of any but qualified teachers who have a critical acquaintance with modern, secular fiction as it oftens recommends highly the works of the 'Realists," such as Faulkner, Caldwell, Steinbeck, Dreiser, Davenport, Farrell and Sinclair. A few Catholic titles are included: the only notable omission among recent novels we note is that of McDowell's Champlain road. Recommended, with above reservation, for teachers of English and history, and for libraries at senior high school level or above.

EUGENE P. WILLGING, University of Scranton

Today's handbook for librarians. By Mary A. Sweeney. Chicago, American Library Association, 1944. 99p. \$0.75.

This is really a handy volume on anything relating to guidance in wartime. How to secure and maintain employment; how to procure "Discharge Buttons" and "Discharge Pay"; what community agencies are helpful in rehabilitation and what special services are available for the handicapped. These and many other problems are answered in this little pamphlet. It contains also a great deal of directory information and has an excellent final listing of source materials on guidance in wartime for a pamphlet file with suggestions for its organization.

Guiding growth in Christian social living; a curriculum for the elementary school. v. 2 (intermediate grades). Commission on American Citizenship, Washington, D. C. Catholic University of America Press, 1944. 400p. \$4.00.

Volume one of this basic curriculum for the Catholic elementary school was described in the November issue of the Catholic Library World. The praise given therein applies in equal measure to the present accomplishment. The editors, Sister Mary Joan, O.P., and Sister Mary Nona, O.P., under the direction of the late Monsignor George Johnson, have chartered a course of Christian purposes and activities organized in a progressive curriculum for librarians as well as teachers and principals.

The librarian will find Part II, the School Program, contributing a superb list of books for grades four, five and six respectively. Titles are classified as poetry, prose and poetry collections, religious books, informational reading and fiction. They comprise the core collection of a good Cathlic elementary school library. The attendant material on story-telling, dramatization, writing of stories and reading under the section on Language Arts deserves careful reading. Part III, Materials and Procedures, contains another set of excellent booklists for the various units described: Eskimo, Animal Travels, Latin America, Com-

munication, and the Blessed Virgin Mary. These references are both for the teacher and the child and comprise periodicals and visual aids as well as books. In a final nine-page "Bibliography for Teachers" are selected books on Christian Social Living, Philosophy of Education, Psychology of Education, Curriculum, Religion, Social Studies, Science, Language Arts, Music, Art, Arithmetic, Health and Physical Education—also Audio-Visual Aids, Bibliographical Aids and Periodicals.

The text is illustrated by twenty-six full-page photographs as well as numerous charts and diagrams. This three-volume contribution should take its place on the librarian's shelf alongside Fargo's Library in the School.

> RICHARD JAMES HURLEY, Asst. Professor, Department of Library Science, Catholic University of America

A survey of Catholic literature. By Stephen J. Brown, S.J., and Thomas McDermott. Bruce, 1945. 249p. \$2.50.

Most easily described as a prose bibliography of universal Catholic literature from the times of the Fathers of the Church to the present day. Not as critical as Alexander's Catholic literary revival nor as easily read, this Survey will prove to be a good reference volume rather than a reading text. The section on the Catholic literature of the United States is curiously uneven, listing Maisie Ward, among Americans, omitting Talbot's Saint among savages, calling Phelps and Saroyan Catholics, recommending without reservation Dearly beloved (and in the same paragraph with Seventeenth summer), including Quinn's History of American drama, (for no other apparent reason than the religion of the author), etc. As a checklist of modern Catholic writers, arranged by countries, this Survey of Catholic literature will prove of value for libraries.

Alexander Pope; A list of critical studies published from 1895 to 1944. By James Edward Tobin. New York, Cosmopolitan Science and Art Service Co., 1945. 30p. \$0.75.

Critical studies of Alexander Pope are listed under general headings as well as the specific works of Pope. The general headings conveniently include the Literary Career and Foreign Reputation of Pope. Dr. Tobin for many years in his lectures and his critical essays has championed the cause of Pope against the romantic dullards. Even this bibliography imitates the Dunciad by placing in Section V, Other Published Material,

criticism that persists in reiterating earlier nonsensical interpretations. The list is practically devoid of annotation, but a system of cross references to items by numbers directs the reader's attention to similar supporting or opposing opinions. No serious student of literature can afford to do without this tool.

> ALOYSIUS J. MILLER, S.I., University of Scranton

The development of library resources and graduate work in the cooperative university centers of the South. Edited by Philip G. Davidson and A. F. Kuhlman. Nashville, Joint University Libraries, 1944. 81p.

This is a report on a conference of librarians and graduate deans from four cooperative university centers of the Southeast region which are the University Centers of North Carolina, Georgia, Louisiana and Nashville. The purpose of the Center is significant regional service and improvement of advanced graduate instruction and research. The agenda for the conference were prepared to bring before the group a number of problems of a cooperative nature which librarians, faculty members and graduate deans had suggested for discussion. The topics discussed are: the meaning and objectives of the Center: essential organization of library agencies: opportunities for concerted library action; and cooperation in advanced instruction and research. This Center represents a new movement in university library service during the past decade, and indicates the significant contribution these librarians in higher education are making to the policy formation in their institutions.

Activity book, Number two. Library projects for children and young people. By Lucile F. Fargo. American Library Association, 1945. 239p. \$2.50.

This new volume supplements the first activity book and similarly is based on the ideas and experiments of teachers, pupils and librarians. It is divided into three parts: the first, a lengthy introduction in which the author discusses the nature and scope of library activity, the practical motivation behind the program, the importance of materials and equipment.

The second part of the book is concerned with activities of immediate library interest, those initiated by the library staff, and immediately employing library equipment and tools. Under each

of the following topics are outlined suggested activities with cross references to allied material and a list of aids: Movie, radio, forum and panel; Experiences in democratic living; The school library steps out; Reading and the use of books as tools.

In the third part, the author has grouped activities under the respective subject divisions of the curriculum. As explained in the introduction, this arrangement results in considerable repetition as the nature of the activities in the different fields does not vary, but the author has thought it wise to repeat the outline in order to definitely suggest materials and ideas suitable in each field. Attention is called to the fact that no attempt has been made to segregate activity according to school grade. In general the material is keyed to senior high school level. The first activity book stressed the elementary and junior high school level.

The book has been well indexed and generously provided with cross references. It will be welcomed by all who have effectively used the first book and is recommended with its companion volume to all school librarians.

Universal military training: A selected and annotated list of references. Compiled by Frances Cheyney. The Library of Congress, 1945. 138p. Mimeographed.

Another in the series of excellent bibliographies being issued by the Library of Congress. The purpose of the present work is to provide a classified guide to the discussions on a topic that is still in the discussion stage without benefit of a background of American experience upon which study might be based. The list is not exhaustive. In general only selected federal documents, books and articles appearing from January, 1942 to March, 1945 have been included, together with some outstanding pamphlets which have presented both sides of the question.

Material has been arranged under broad classified headings. These include, bibliographies, general discussion, historical background (only a few references are included under this heading because a more complete bibliography has already been published), foreign systems of compulsory military training, proposals made, aspects of universal military training, and the timeliness of legislation.

The annotations are intended to identify the authors and to summarize rather than evaluate the contents of the books and articles.

## New Books

BOOK CLUB SELECTIONS Catholic Book Club—April

Monro, Margaret T. Enjoying the New Testament. Longmans, 1945. \$2.50.

The author shows that romance and drama and the thrills that modern readers often crave are all contained in the New Testament. She begins with the Acts of the Apostles and steers her readers away from the dry chronological events of the first chapter of St. Matthew, revealing scholarly attainments in her "composition of place". At the end of each chapter, under the caption "To Think About", in a few questions is sum-marized a pleasing bit of theology or philosophy; history or social reform.

Rev. Stephen Sweeney, C.P. Catholic Book Club—May

DURKIN, JOSEPH T., S.J., Editor. . John Dooley Confederate soldier: his war journal. Georgetown University Press, 1945. xix, 240p. \$3.00.

Douglas S. Freeman has written the Foreword to this scholarly edition of the diary of John Dooley. The day-by-day account has been competently supplemented by footnotes which set the narrative in time and place relationship to the general operations of the Civil War.

In an epilogue, Father Durkin gives an account of John Dooley's life at Georgetown, where he died nine months before his ordination to the priesthood.

Biography
Borden, Lucille Papin. Francesca Cabrini: without staff or scrip. Macmillan,

1945. 402p. \$2.75.

The author combines historical narrative with character study. Interesting in detail, the story of the sixty-seven houses founded in the Institute of the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart which involved twenty-four voyages across the Atlantic by the sainted foundress, Mother Cabrini, is told reverently and accurately. In her study of the Saint's personality, Mrs. Borden aptly portrays Mother Cabrini as the humble, obedient and zealous missionary who stifled her own desire to be a missionary to China in order to obey the Head of the Church who called for missions among the Italian people in America.

Doyle, CHARLES HUGO. The life of Pope Pius XII. New York, Didier, 1945. 258p. \$3.00.

An up-to-date life of Pius XII simply written; combining fact and comment. Indexed.

HOLLIS, CHRISTOPHER. St. Ignatius. Sheed and Ward, 1945. x, 287p. \$2.50.

A vivid, spirited study of St. Ignatius. There may be some controversial interpretations, but the author of this biography, in attempting to understand the Saint for himself, makes St. Ignatius understandable to the reader. It first appeared in 1931, and is now republished. Charles Denecke, S.J.

MARTINDALE, C. C., S.J. The vocation of Aloysius Gonzaga. Sheed and Ward, 1945. xviii, 301p. \$2.50.

The best English life of St. Aloysius has been republished. Its greatest merit is that it succeeds in interpreting the young Saint of the sixteenth century to English speaking youth of the twentieth.

Charles Denecke, S.J. MAYNARD, THEODORE. Too small a world; the life of Francesca Cabrini. Bruce, 1945.

The title of this biography was inspired by the unbounded zeal of Mother Cabrini in her travels to win souls for Christ. During her sixty-seven years on earth she established sixty-seven convents in her foundation, the Institute of the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart.

#### Education

RYAN, JOHN JULIAN. The idea of a Catholic college. Sheed and Ward, 1945. 132p. \$2.00.

A blueprint for Catholic colleges based on St. Paul's assertion that Catholic education should have for its aim the building up of the Christ-life in every soul. In purpose, curriculum and presentation, Catholic college education is herein developed within the framework of Charity.

History

MACLEAN, DONALD A. A dynamic world order. Bruce, 1945. xii, 235p. \$2.50.

"The author, in twenty brief chapters, explains the Christian solutions to the problems baffling humanity today. Without watering down Christian doctrine he demonstrates that the popes have outlined a really dynamic world order. With such spiritual principles as the brotherhood of man under the fatherhood of God, the necessity of the natural law, the harmonious interrelation of justice and charity as foundation, he writes with authority on such practical problems as international aviation, world trade, emigration, minorities, disarmament, sanctions and international institutions."

Best Sellers 5:50

#### Juvenile

BROCK, EMMA L. Uncle Bennie goes visit-

ing. Knopf, 1944. 57p. \$2,00.

The familiar name and illustrations of Miss Brock announces her eighteenth book and latest addition to her "family" in the person of a retired grocery clerk who decides, after a summer on a farm, to "plant-a-seed and dig-a-weed". Susie and Bill teach him about the farm but Uncle Bennie has his own way of doing the chores. Gay and delightful reading for everybody.

Richard J. Hurley DENNIS, MORGAN. Burlap. Viking, 1945.

Unnumbered pages. \$1.00.

Burlap was a hound dog who appeared good for nothing in the eyes of everyone on the farm except the little boy who arrived for a summer visit with his grandmother. In an exciting adventure the dog really proved himself a hero and it was with pride that Dick took him back to the city with him. A picture-story book for the 4-7 year old.

PRICE, OLIVE. A donkey for the King. Decorated by Valenti Angelo. Whittle-

sey House, 1945. 73p. \$1.75.

Dusty, the donkey, who had borne the King on Palm Sunday, became a central character in the life of the wealthy Hebrew husbandman, Benjamin. Dusty's preference for the poor, lame servant Joshua aroused the antagonism of Benjamin's son Philip who plotted against the donkey and servant, but later admitted his error. Excellent pictures and initial letters. Suitable for middle and upper grades.

E. P. Willging

#### Literature

Langland, William. The vision of Piers Plowman. Translated by Henry W. Wells. Sheed and Ward, 1945. 304p. \$3.00.

The most Catholic of all Christian poems in the English Tongue is reprinted. The vision of Piers Plowman is a study of man and his life in this world that teaches more about God than many a treatise in theology. It is a study of God in the next world that teaches more about man in this than many a treatise

in history and sociology. The translation, preserving the alliterative effects of the orginial, is rendered readable even for the uninitiated by an adequate introduction and notes.

Aloysius J. Miller, S.J.

Lowenstein, Prince Hubertus Zu. The Child and the emperor. A legend. Macmillan, 1945. 70p. \$1.50.

In this legend the author brings out the contrast between spiritual and temporal power. Our Lord is portrayed as the Child, astoundingly wise, amid relatives and friends who only gradually grasped the truth of His Messianic mission. Beautifully written.

#### Philosophy

Augustine, St. An Augustine synthesis. Arranged by Erich Przywara, S.J. Sheed and Ward, 1945. 495p. \$3.50.

A reprint of the 1936 publication in which the passages from Augustine are arranged in a continuous treatise, written for the general reader, with an introduction by C. C. Martindale, S.J.

Magner, James A. Personality and successful living. Bruce, 1945. vii, ix, 244p. \$2.75.

Father Magner considers the meaning of personality from the standpoint of philosophy and as exemplified in the person of Christ, taking successively the steps in "conscious development along the lines of private and social conduct as taught and practiced by Christ"

WELLMUTH, JOHN, S.J. The nature and origins of scientism. The Aquinas lecture, 1944. Milwaukee, Marquette University Press, 1944. 60p. \$1.50.

The credo of scientism is that the scientific method is the only reliable natural means of acquiring knowledge; that knowable reality is limited to that which can be so known; and that philosophy must either adopt the method of science or become a synthesizing science of the many departments of science. Despite its claim to be typically modern, Father Wellmuth shows that this attitude is present in the Medieval nominalist tradition.

Charles Denecke, S.J.

#### Religion

ANDERL, REV. STEPHEN and SISTER M. RUTH, F.S.P.A. The technique of the Catholic action cell. Third edition. St. Rose Convent, La Crosse, Wisconsin, 1945.

A presentation of the meaning and purpose of Catholic Action and of the method to be observed in conducting cell meetings. In two parts, the first outlines procedure for meeting; the second, is devoted to practical considerations and directives. Examples and

a list of recommended readings are provided. Includes appropriate prayers for Catholic actionists.

BISKUPEK, REV. ALOYSIUS, S.V.D. Priesthood, conferences on the Rite of Ordination. Herder, 1945. vi, 398p. \$3.50.

From the different injunctions and prayers of the ceremony of ordination the author has drawn lessons in the form of conferences or meditations, that deal with the duties, obligations, and privileges of the priesthood. Divided into short sections, it lends itself to reflective reading, and will be particularly valuable for priests.

Charles Denecke, S.J.

CERVANTES, L. F., S.J. That you may live. Guild Press, 1945. 176p. \$2.00. This is a dynamic and dramatic presentation of the theology of St. Paul against the background of his life and in terms of the world in which we live. The oneness of life with Christ is revealed with all the force with which it struck St. Paul and with all the vigor and life it can give a dying and disintegrating world. Here we have the profound doctrine of the Mystical Body in a book which reads like a novel.

Aloysius J. Miller, S.J. KARRER, OTTO. Religions of mankind. Trans. E. I. Watkin. Sheed and Ward,

1945. x, 291. \$2.75.

A survey of the history of religion from the Catholic point of view. Father Karrer shows the elements of truth, goodness and beauty to be present in all religions, and demonstrates the universality of the notions of God and prayer, as well as that of the connection between religion and morality. This book was well received both by Catholic and non-Catholic critics when it first appeared in 1936.

Charles Denecke, S.J.

LEWIS, C. S. Beyond personality. Mac-

millan, 1945. 68p. \$1.00.

Beyond personality is the third and latest volume of the Anglican writer's little radio addresses for the B.B.C. on Christianity; the first was apologetic; the second ethical; this one tries to popularize in the best sense of the word, such great theological verities as the Trinity, God's existence in Eternity, and the effect of the Incarnation on mankind. Mr. Lewis' strongest forte here is his power of simple and homely illustration, a power which he and his Roman Catholic contemporary, Ronald Knox, derive from their study of the divine Author of the Parables.

Charles A. Brady, Ph.D.

Morell, Mother Julienne, O.P. Meditations on eternity for religious. From

the second edition, carefully revised and edited by Mathieu-Joseph Rousset, O.P. Pustet, 1945. xiii, 146p. \$2.50.

Twenty-nine meditations arranged for a re-

Twenty-nine meditations arranged for a retreat of ten or fifteen days. They have been in continued use among the Dominican Nuns and are now translated from the French for the benefit of religious and layman. Prefaced by a biographical sketch of the author.

Newman, John Henry. A Newman synthesis. Arranged by Erich Przywara, S.J. Sheed and Ward. 379p. \$3.50.

This anthology is really a synthesis in that it reconstitutes Newman's thought on the nature of God and the relationship between God and man by taking selections from twenty-four of Newman's works and assembling them in a systematic sequence under such headings as God, Miracles, The Church, From Faith to Sight, etc. This Newman synthesis emphasizes the thoroughly religious nature of Newman's thought. For the advanced college student and adult reader. This is a reprint of the 1931 edition.

E. P. Willging

ROCHE, ALOYSIUS. Between ourselves. Longmans, 1945. 182p. \$2.00.

Inspirational reading for all who seek self improvement and a guide for those who teach or counsel.

Sociology

GIORDANI, IGINO. The social message of the early Church Fathers. St. Anthony Guild Press, 1944. 356p. \$4.00.

Through an examination of the writings of the Church Fathers of the second and third centuries, the author traces the development of Christian ideas of civil and religious obligation as derived from the completed revelation. Though the second volume to be published, this is the third in a series on the history of early Christian social thought.

#### BOOKS . . .

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## Index to Volume 16

OCTOBER, 1944 TO MAY, 1945

Note: References to pages 225-264 are in the Handbook, issued as Part One of the May issue, sent only to \$5.00 members.

Activities, constitutional provision, 235
Adam, K. App. 99
Aid to war devastated libraries, 55
Albany Unit, 85
American Education Week, 215
American Education Week, 215
American Library Association to salvage army libraries, 56
Angeline, Sister M. Caryll Houselander, 267
App. A. J. Karl Adam, 99
Army libraries
A.L.A. to salvage army libraries, 56
Bates, M. J. The Hispanic Foundation of the Library of Congress, 47
Best Sellers of 1944. Wolf and Willging, 107
Boards, constitutional provision, 233
Books and remedial reading. Mother Nila. 81
Books for service men
Manhattan apponsors book drive, 86

Books for service men
Manhattan sponsors book drive, 86
Book for service men
Manhattan sponsors book drive, 86
Book selection
Doubleday list for Catholic schools, 187
Bouwhuis, A. L., S.J. The Canisius summer institute on elementary school libraries, 20; History and hopes, 276
Brady, C. A. Evelyn Waugh, 163; Graham Greene, 67
Bruce Publishing Co. Catholic writers needed, 152
Canisius summer institute on elementary school libraries.
Bouwhuis. 20
Cardoto, Manoel de S. S. Manoel De Oliveira Lima, his life and his library, 43
Castañeda, C. E. Modern lighthouses of culture, 40
Catholic book shelf, 26
Catholic Book Week
Activities, 83; Chairmen, 7, 87; Mobilization. Murphy.
8: National Catholic Book Week, 186; Poster contest, 186; "Read for a better world". Hurley, 3; Slogan contest winners, 26
Catholic Book Peok Week, 1044 Hurley, 3; Slogan contest winners, 26

185; "Read for a better world". Hurley, 3; Slogan contest winners, 26
Catholic Book: Week, 1944. Hurley. 148
Catholic Book Week, 1945. Sylvester. 288
Catholic Daughters of America. Court Madonna, Ames
Unit. Catholic book shelf, 26
Catholic librarian and inter-American relations, 50
Catholic library Association
Election returns, 214; History and hopes. Bouwhuis. 270; Report on C.L.A. Units and Conferences. Hurley, 281
Catholic resear month. 122, 147, 152

270; Report on C.L.A. Units and Conferences. Hurley. 281
Catholic press month, 122, 147, 152
Catholic School Journal. Poster contest, 186
Catholic supplement to the standard catalog for h. s. libraries, 75
Catholic University. Lima Library. Manoel de Oliveira Lima, his life and his library. Cardozo. 43
Catholic University library institute, 24
Catholic university library institute, 24
Catholic writers needed, 152
The college student and the library: a strategic approach. Temple. 211
Contemporary Catholic authors:

Temple. 211
Contemporary Catholic authors:
C. Houselander, 267
E. Duggan, 195
E. Waugh, 163
G. Greene, 67
M. F. Windeatt, 131
M. Criss, 35
K. Adam, 99
Corcoran, J. N. The Thomas More Foundation, 286
Council of National Library Associations. Aid to war devastated libraries, 56
Criss, M. Hurley. 35
David, Brother, C.S.C. Professional education, 272
Dickman, V., O.F.M. Racial unity: an annotated reading list, 181
Doubleday list for Catholic schools, 187
Duggan, E. Williams. 195

Duquesne University library science department. Shoniker.

Election of officers, constitutional provision, 235
Elementary school libraries
The Canisius summer institute on elementary school libraries. Bouwhuis. 20; Catholic University library

The Canisius summer institute on elementary school libraries. Bouwhuis. 20; Catholic University library institute, 24
Ethel, Sister M., O.S.F. Nothing new, 216
Executive Council, constitutional provision, 232
Farrell, C. J., O.S.B., re-elected to E. C., 214
Finn, L. The Seattle Book Fair of 1943, 17
Fix:Gerald, W., honored, 86; appointed to faculty of St. Louis University, 25
Georgetown University
The Talbot collection. Yates. 118
Oertrude, Sister, R.S.M. Integration of the library and the classroom, 204
Greater Cincinnati Unit. Unit activities, 54
Greene, G. Brady. 67
Guiding the teen age reader in the public library. Scoggin. 199
Haggerty, J. E., S.J. Libraries in Philippines, 187; What

gin. 199
Hagperty, J. E., S.J. Libraries in Philippines, 187; What happened to libraries in the Philippines, 207
High school libraries
Integration of the library and the classroom. Sr. Gertrude. 201; Marywood school library institute, 184
Hispanic Foundation of the Library of Congress. Bates,

trude. 204; Marywood school library institute, 184
Hispanic Foundation of the Library of Congress. Bates,
47; erratum, 152
History and hopes. Bouwhuis. 276
Hospital libraries
S.L.A. forms hospital library group, 26
Houselander, C. Sr. M. Angeline. 267
Hurley, R. J. Catholic Book Week, 1944, 148; Mildred
Criss, 35; "Read for a better world", 3; Report on
C.L.A. Units and Conferences, 281; president, 214
Illinois Unit, 55, 215
Integration of the library and the classroom. Sr. Gertrude. 204
It can be done. Sullivan. 78
Jefferson, Thomas, easay contest on, 66
Joint sessions, constitutional provision, 234
Keeping up with today. Welsh. 135
Latin American libraries
The Catholic librarian and inter-American relations.
Sandoval. 50; The Hispanic Foundation of the Library
of Congress. Bates. 47; Manoel de Oliveira Lima,
his life and his library. Cardozo. 43; Modern lighthouses of culture. Castañeda. 40
Libraries and readers
The collens student and the library. Temple. 211
Libraries in Philippines. Haggerty. 207
Library manual, new edition, 125
Library manual, new edition, 125
Library schools
Duquesne University library science department. Shonlker. 275

Library schools
Duqueane University library science department. Shonlker. 275
Library training
Professional education. Bro. David. 272
Little, Brown discontinues textbooks, 123
Lynn, D. E., re-elected scretary-treas., 214
MacLeish, A. Librarian of Congress honored, 124
Manhattan College, sponsors book drive, 86
Manoel de Oliveira Lima, his life and his library. Cardozo. 43
Marian library progresses, 124
Marshall, Sr. Hildegarde. A library club in high school, 14
Marywood College, offers scholarships, 185; school library institute, 184
Meetings, constitutional provision, 235

Meetings, constitutional provision, 235

Members, contributing, 237; honorary, 237; sustaining, 237
Membership, constitutional provision, 231
Meyer, Augusto, visiting the U. S., 55
Michigan Unit, 121
Midwest Unit, 26, 54
Miller, G. A plea for parish libraries, 209
Minnesota-Dakota Unit, 55, 151
Mobilization. Murphy. 8
Modern lighthouses of culture. Castañeda. 40
More reading for a better world: The Catholic Supplement. Sr. St. Magdalen. 75
Murphy, L. Mobilization, 8
National Catholic Book Week. See, Catholic Book Week
New York-New Jersey Unit, 185
Nila, Mother Mary, O.S.F. Books and remedial reading, 81 New York-New Jersey Unit, 185
Nila, Mother Mary, O.S.F. Books and remedial reading, 81
Nomination and election of officers, constitutional provision, 235
Norberta, Siater M., elected to E. C., 214
National Boys and Cirls Week, 187
Nothing new. Sr. M. Ethel, 216
O'Connor, J. J. Some current books and the current crisis, 143
Officers, 227; constitutional provision, 232
Officers, duties of, constitutional provision, 232
Pacific Northwest Regional Conference, 122
Parish libraries, A plea for. Miller. 209
Peabody College, graduate work, 215
Philapoline Islands, libraries in, 187; What happened so libraries in the Philippines. Haggerty. 207
Pittsburgh Unit, 180
Pittsburgh Book Fair, 123
Plea for parish libraries. Miller. 209
Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies.
The walls are lined with books. Scollard. 140
Poster contest, 186
Professional education. Bro. David. 272
Public libraries
Guiding the seen age seader in the public library. Scoggin. 199
Public libraries, Catholic
The Thomas More Foundation. Cortoran. 286
Publications, list of, 229; official, constitutional provision, 276
Read for a better world". Hurley. 3 Racial unity: an annotated reading list. Dieckman. 181 "Read for a better world". Hurley. 3 Reading
Books and remedial seading. Mother Nila. 81; It can
be done. Sullivan. 78; Reading problems, 187; Some
current books and the current crisis. O'Connor. 143 Reading guidance
Guiding the teen age reader in the public library.
Scogg'n. 159 Reading lists
Racial unity: an annotated list. Dieckman. 181
Reading problems, 187
Regional conferences, constitutional provision, 234
Religious Book Week, 214
St. I ou's Unit, 186
St. Magdalen, Sister. More reading for a better world:
The Catholic Supplement, 75
Sandoval, E. T. The Catholic librarian and inter-American relations. 50
Savarge, Alma. Mary Fabyan Windeatt, 131
Scarlet lily to be filmed. 56; translations. 215
Scorevin, M. Ouiding the teen age reader in the public library, 199
Scollard, R. J. The walls are lined with books, 140
Scranton D'ocesan Unit, 124
Seattle Book Fair of 1943. Firm. 17
Secretary-treasurer's financial rept., 153
Sections, constitutional provision, 233
Shoniker, F. R., O.S.B. Duquesne University Library
Science Department, 275
Short story contest, 1945, 123
Slogan contest winners, 26
Some current books and the current crisis. O'Comor. 143
Special Libraries Association forms hospital library group, 26
Specimen ballot for the 1945 election, 156
Study Gu'id Catholic Library. newsletter. 187 Reading lists Specimen ballot for the 1945 election, 156 Study Gu'ld Catholic Library, newdetter, 187 Sullivan, Sr. Helen. It can be done, 78

Sylvester, Brother J. Catholic Book Week, 1945, 288
The Talbot collection. Yates. 118
Temple, P. The college student and the library: a strategic approach, 211
Thomas, Bro., elected vice-president, 214
Thomas More Foundation, The. Corcoran. 286
United Nations education kit, 55
United States history film, 154
Units
Report on C.I. A. project of the control of the co Units
Report on C.L.A. units and conferences. Hurley 28
constitutional provision, 234; regional and local, 229
Vatican code completed, 86
Veteran's education guide, 85
Veterans' vocational guidance, 152
Walls are lined with books. Scollard. 140
Waugh, E. Brady. 163
Weeding
Keeping up with today. Welsh. 115 Weish, Helen C. Keeping up with today. Welsh. 135
Weish, Helen C. Keeping up with today, 135
Western New York Catholic Librarians Conference, 25, 54, 84, 151
What happened to libraries in the Philippines. Haggerty. 207
Willieing F. Bern March 1600 (1997) Willging, E. Best sellers of 1944, 107
Willging, E. Best sellers of 1944, 107
Williams, M. Eileen Duggan, 195
Windeast, Mary F. Savage. 13i
Wisconsin Unit, 55, 84, 185
Wolf, L. Best sellers of 1944, 107
Yates, G. F., S.J. The Talbot collection, 118 BOOK REVIEWS

BOOK REVIEWS

Akers. Simple library cataloging, 92

American Catholic convert suthors, 58

American Catholic who's who, 220

American Library Assn. School libraries for today and tomorrow, 2%

— A.L.A. glossary of library serms, 92

Anuario bibliografico Venezolano, 59

Brown, S. & McDermott. A survey of Catholic literature, 298

Brown, Z. The library key, 221

Carnovsky & Lowell. The library in the community, 60

Catholic elementary school libraries, 297

Catholic elementary school libraries, 297

Catholic University. Commission on American Citizenship. Guiding growth in Christian social living, v. 2, 298 ship.

ahip. Guiding growth in Christian social living, v. 2, 298

Coar & Lillard. America in fiction, 296

Davidson & Kuhlman. Development of library resources and graduate work in the cooperative university centers of the South, 297

Fargo. Activity book, Number two, 299

Farquhar. Childcraft. 14v. 90

Guiding growth in Christian social living, 59

Hazeltine. Anniversaries and hol'days, 220

Kircher. Character formation through books, 221

Lombard. Looking at life through American literature, 61

Minneapolis Public Library. Patrons are people, 221

Neville. The aviation dictionary for boys and girls, 60

Pires. Nas galerias da aree da historia, 60

Rider. Melvil Dewy, 61

Romig. Guide to Catholic literature, vol. 2, 196

Scally. Negro Catholic witers, 1900-1943, 220

Sears. List of subject headings for small libraries, 157

Stanford. Library extension under W.P.A., 61

Sweeney. Today's handbook for librarians, 297

Tobin. Alexander Pope: a list of critical studies, 298

U. S. Library of Congress. Universal milicary training: a selected and annotated list of references, 299

Winchell. Reference book of 1941-1943, 92

INDEX TO ADVERTISERS Note: For address of firm see advertisement in issue mentioned

Best Sellers. Feb.
Compton, F. E. and Co. Oct., Jan., Mar.
Doubleday, Doran & Co. Mar.
Encyclopo'dia Britannica. Feb., May
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